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BIRD NOTES.

THE JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB,
FOR THE STUDY OF ALL SPECIES OF BIRDS
IN FREEDOM AND CAPTIVITY.

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VOLUME III.—SERIES III.

> *" By mutual confidence and mutual aid,*
> *Great deeds are done and great discoveries made."*

EDITED BY

WESLEY T. PAGE, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.,

AUTHOR OF " AVIARIES AND AVIARY LIFE," ETC.

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Secretary's Report.

◆

With this issue of Bird Notes another volume of the Club Journal is completed. Compared with previous years I think it still holds its own, and trust the members will be of the same opinion.

As in past years I again ask more of our members to contribute copy, as our worthy Editor, Mr. Page, must find it heavy work to fill the gaps with articles, which cannot be written in a few minutes.

During the past year many have resigned membership, owing to having dismantled their aviaries during the war, and are not renewing them. We have, however, elected 24 New Members during the year. Cannot we more than double this in 1921 and so signalise the Coming of Age year of the Club?

During the past twelve months a goodly number of Foreign Birds have again come on the market, and these soon found purchasers. Many have, I know, gone to old members of the Club, but many also have been purchased by aviculturists who would, no doubt, become members if our Club were made known to them; and I ask any of our members who come in contact with aviculturists who are not members of F.B.C., to make the Club and its advantages known to them, and to endeavour to get them to join us. In this way, if you cannot contribute an article on your own birds or on some matter of avicultural interest, and there must be many who can and do not, do your best to propose at least one new member during 1921.

If every one will push together, not only will the gaps on our roll be filled, but our membership will exceed pre-war number; and Bird Notes will still continue to be a Journal to be justly proud of.

SIDNEY WILLIAMS, F.Z.S.,
Hon. Secretary.

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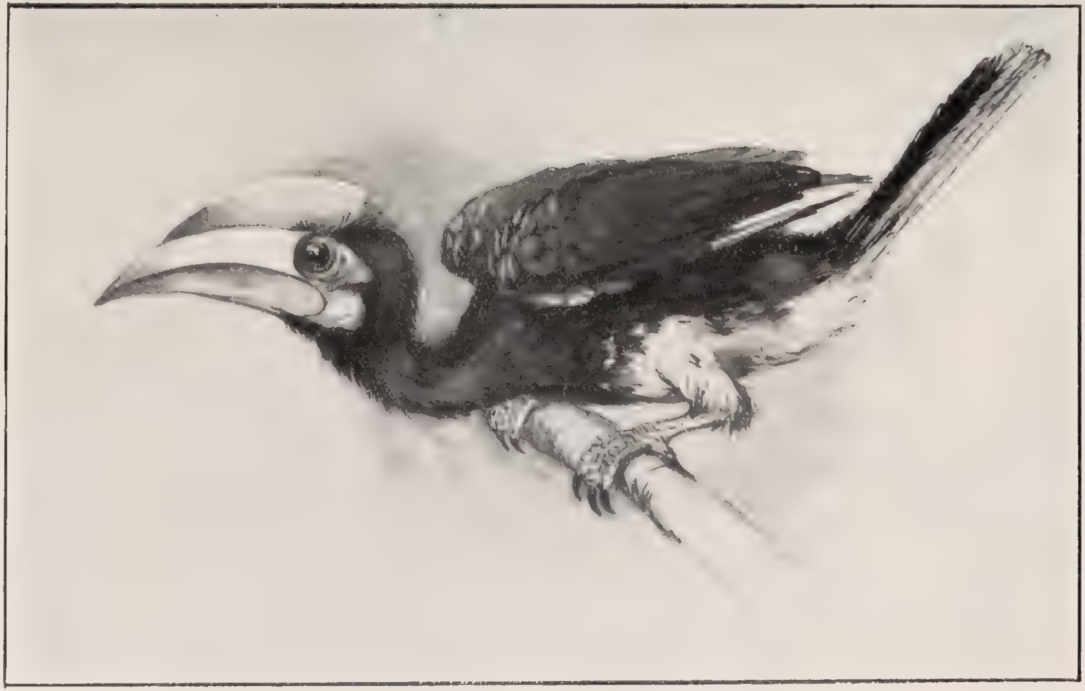

From life by Mrs. A. M. Cook, F.Z.S.

The Pied Hornbill.
Pose on Alighting.

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BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

The Pied Hornbill.

(Anthracoceros albirostris).

By WESLEY T. PAGE, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

In last issue I gave a few notes on the Plicated Hornbill *(Rhytidoceros plicatus)*, and I now propose giving a few notes of a pair of Pied Hornbills, sent to me among a number of other species by our member Mr. E. W. Harper, of Calcutta. These remained in my possession nearly three months, having recently been purchased by the Manchester Zoo.

Before indulging in personal notes of this individual pair I purpose introducing them by some remarks on Indian Hornbills generally, as, though possessing many books of Indian birds, these do not contain any notes of the wild habits of the Pied Hornbill- however, this will be of little import, as, though the species differ materially in size, their wild habits nesting economy and general characteristics are all similar.

It will be seen that *Dichoceros bicornis*, the Great Hornbill and *Lophoceros birostris* the Grey Hornbill are the species mostly referred to, and the extracts are from the books of Douglas Dewar.

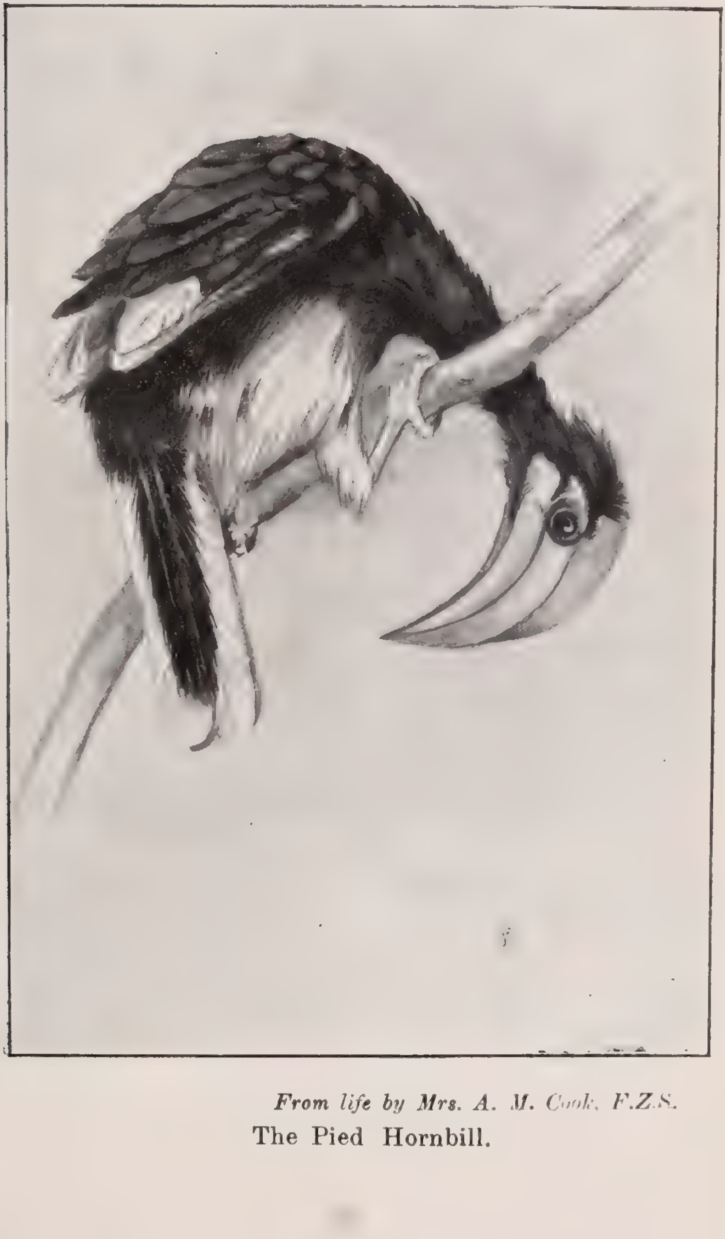
" Hornbills, like the Jews, are a peculiar race. There are no other " birds like unto them. They are fowls of extravagant form. Their " bodies are studies in disproportion. The beak and tail of each species " would fit admirably a bird twice as big as their actual possessor, while " birds less than half their size might well look askance at the wings with " which they are blessed. With the solitary exception of the ' cake walk ' " of the Adjutant *(Leptoptilus dubius)* I know of no sight in nature more " absurd than the flight of the Hornbill. By dint of a series of vigorous " flaps of its disproportionately short wings the bird manages to propel

" itself through the air. But the efforts put forth are too strenuous to be " maintained for many seconds at a time . When it has managed to acquire " a little impetus, the great bird gives its pinions a rest, and sails at a " snail's pace for a few seconds, after which, in order to save itself from " falling, it violently flaps its wings again, and thus manages to win its " way laboriously from one grove to another, in much the same way as the " primitive flying reptiles must have done. Nor is the excitement over when " it reaches its destination. Owing to the weight of the beak, the " Hornbill is in the danger of toppling over, head foremost, as it alights " on a branch, and assuredly would sometimes do so, but for the long " tail which serves to balance the great beak. So vigorously does the " Hornbill have to flap its wings during flight that the sound of the air " rushing through them can be heard for nearly half a mile in the case " of the larger species."

" The majority of species of Hornbills shun the vicinity of human " beings. They are accordingly to be found only in the Terai and other " great forest tracts. The Grey Hornbill, on the contrary, shows no fear " of man. Although strictly arboreal in its habits, it occurs in those parts " of the country that are not thickly wooded. A grove of trees is all that " it demands. Grey Hornbills are birds of the highway and the village. " Usually they go about in small flocks."

" Hornbills feed largely on fruit . . . . Their great bills are " admirably suited to the plucking of fruit. When the Hornbill has " severed a berry, it tosses it into the air, catches it in its bill as it falls and " then swallows it."

" The nesting habits of Hornbills are very remarkable. The eggs " are deposited in a cavity in a tree. The cavity selected may be the " result of decay in the wood, or it may have been hollowed out by a wood- " pecker or other bird. In either case the Hornbill has usually to enlarge " the cavity, for, being a big bird, it requires a spacious nest. When all " preparations have been made, the female enters the nest hole, and does " not emerge again until some weeks later, when the eggs have been " hatched and the young are ready to fly. Having entered the nest the " hen Hornbill proceeds to reduce the size of the orifice by which she " gained access to the nest cavity, by plastering it up with her ordure until " the aperture is no more than a mere slit, only just large enough to enable " her to insert her bill through it. Thus, during the whole period of " incubation and brooding she is entirely dependent on the cock for food " And he never leaves her in the lurch . . . . When he reaches the " trunk in which his wife is sitting, he, while clinging to the bark with his " claws, taps the trunk with his bill, and thus apprises her of his arrival. " She then thrusts her bill through the orifice and receives the food. " When at length the young are ready to leave the nest, the mother emerges " with her plumage in a much bedraggled condition. Why the hen " Hornbill behaves thus, why she is content to submit periodically to a term



From life by Mrs. A. M. Cook, F.Z.S.

The Pied Hornbill.

"of 'simple imprisonment,' is one of the unsolved riddles of Nature. "This curious habit is peculiar to the Hornbills, but seems to be common "to every member of the family . . . . Another curious feature in "the nesting habits of the Hornbill does not appear to have been mentioned "by any observer, and that is that during the nesting season Hornbills go "about in threes, and not in pairs. I have noticed this on two occasions, "and Mr. Horne, in his interesting account of the nesting of the Grey "Hornbill at Mainpuri, which is recorded in Hume's *Nests and Eggs of "Indian Birds,* mentions the presence of a third Hornbill, who 'used to "hover about, watch proceedings, and sometimes quarrel with her accepted "lord, but he never brought food to the female.' Although Grey "Hornbills are by no means uncommon birds, very few nests seem to "have been taken." *Glimpses of Indian Birds.* D. Dewar.

Though it may appear somewhat like repetition, Mr. Dewar is so graphically descriptive that I am quoting him again from another of his many books on Indian birds.

"Hornbills are to be numbered among the curiosities of nature. "They are characterised by the disproportionately large beak. In some "species this is nearly a foot in length. The beak has on the upper "mandible an excrescence which in some species is nearly as large as the "bill itself. The nesting habits are not less curious than the structure of "Hornbills. The eggs are laid in the cavity of a tree. The hen alone "sits. When she has entered the hole she and the cock plaster up the "orifice until it is only just large enough to allow the insertion of the "Hornbill's beak. The cock feeds the hen during the whole period of "her voluntary incarceration." *Birds of the Indian Hill.* D. Dewar.

Some species certainly inflate the throat and expand the tail when displaying to the female, for I have observed this at the London Zoo, and if my memory serves me right I have seen the Pied Hornbill so displaying.

The eggs are dingy white and have coarse pores. The clutch varies from one to four and is deposited upon a few feathers and other debris in the bottom of the nest cavity.

Hornbills comprise some nineteen genera and about seventy species, and are well represented in Africa, India and the East Indies.

While the pair of Pied Hornbills remained with me (about three months) they were kept in a roughly erected flight 8 feet x 5 feet x 6 feet high, in an unheated loft over my stables, and here they did well, soon getting rid of travel stains, and were quite plump and in decent feather when I despatched them to their new home at the Manchester Zoo, where, I trust, they will have a long life and interest many.

I found them so interesting and entertaining that, but for the fact that my own aviary accommodation was already planned out for the coming season, I should have kept them. Their drollieries and familiarities are really fascinating, and their dietary presents no difficulty. With me their menu consisted of boiled rice, a little biscuit meal, apple and a little raw meat—the meat and apple I passed through a sausage machine (coarse cutter), and then mashed altogether, finally leaving it in small lumps about the size of a hazel-nut; they like it this way best, though they make no difficulty about making a hearty meal when their food is left in the mass, but under the latter condition some of it gets scattered about. They readily take all our small fruits whole, toss them up in the air, catch them and by a downward, inward jerk pass them to their throats and swallow them, afterwards ejecting stones and other indigestible portions; they take all their food by this method. I must admit that I found them

Photo E. O. Page.

Pied Hornbills (*juvenile plumage*).

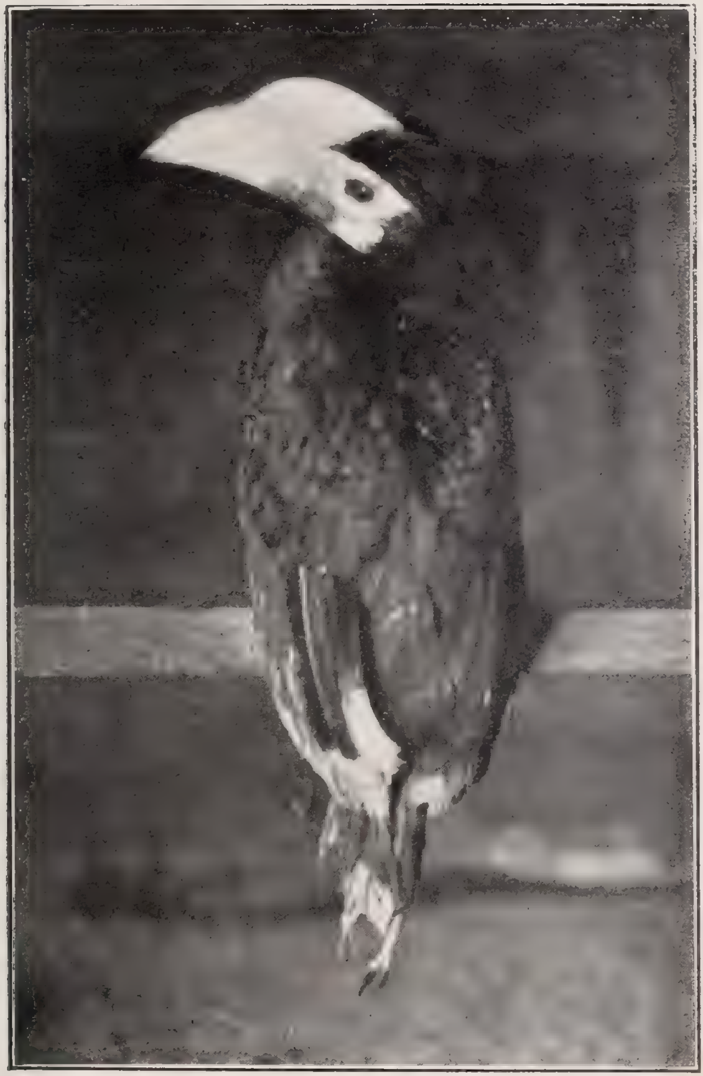


Photo E. O. Page.

Pied Hornbill.

Juvenile plumage.

so interesting at mealtimes that I frequently wasted half an hour watching them, after having put in their food supplies.

They were 1919 hatched birds, but well developel when they reached me, having travelled well, and their condition reflected great credit on Mr. Harper's skill in planning travelling cages to ensure a comfortable and *cleanly* journey and feeding arrangements *en route*. Of course they were in juvenile plumage and with tails cut short (another provision for their comfort), and with their huge bills but partially developed. And when our member, Mrs. A. M. Cook, wrote that there was an adult specimen at the Zoo and kindly offered to make a drawing of it for BIRD NOTES, I gratefully accepted her offer, so that our members could see juvenile and adult plumages, as it were, side by side.

For many years this group at the Zoo have interested me greatly, and I have often spent quite a time with them and their keeper in their section of the Eastern Aviary, watching their dexterity in catching raisins, etc., and their equally dexterous and quaint method of disposing of them.

True they are somewhat ungainly in deportment compared with most of the other occupants of our aviaries, but this is a matter of comparison only, for, when one considers their habits etc., one is amazed not only at their dexterity, but how completely nature made them fit for the battle of life.

Their nesting economy also is most interesting, but I need not repeat details, as these have been already given in my extracts from Mr. Dewar's notes on this species and Hornbills generally. How great would be the interest of watching a pair provided with accommodation that would supply some chance of successful nesting, even though success was long withheld, and many disappointing episodes marked the sequence of their endeavour to reproduce their kind!

After all the accommodation necessary need not be huge; a shelter about 8 feet square and 6 feet high, with a flight about 10 feet x 8 feet should form excellent quarters for them. The shelter should be provided with some means of keeping up a temperature of about 50 degrees F. during the cold months of the year, as during that period they must remain confined thereto. The flight would need to be suitably fitted with tree stumps and fairly thick branches for them to disport upon. In the shelter a piece of a half-rotten tree trunk should be fixed, which must have a cavity made in it and an entrance hole—such accommodation should provide reasonable inducement for them to attempt to reproduce their kind.

Attempts with such out of the way species, and also Vultures, etc., should open up a new field to the students of aviculture, and provide new interest to those who have become, perhaps, satiated with breeding Passerine birds, Parrakeets, etc.

◆

Records of Birds which have Bred in Captivity

By E. Hopkinson, D.S.O., M.A., M.B.

(Continued from page 258).

503.—AMERICAN POCHARD. *A. americana.*

Hybrids.

× American Pochard (Ring-necked Scaup).
× American Pochard (Lesser Scaup).

◆

504.—WHITE-EYED POCHARD. *A. nyroca.* **W.T.P.**

Wormald as above.

Hybrids.

WHITE-EYED POCHARD × MARBLED DUCK. W.T.P.
,, ,, ,, × ROSY-BILLED DUCK. W.T.P.
,, ,, ,, × WILD DUCK. (see last entry below).
× White-eyed Pochard (Marbled Duck).
× White-eyed Pochard (Pochard).
× White-eyed Pochard (Tufted Duck).
× White-eyed Pochard × Wild Duck Hybrid (Tufted Duck).

◆

505.—LESSER SCAUP-DUCK. *Fuligula affinis.*

Hybrids.

LESSER SCAUP × AMERICAN POCHARD. W.T.P.

◆

506.—RING-NECKED SCAUP. *F. collaris.*

Hybrids.

RING-NECKED SCAUP × AMERICAN POCHARD. W.T.P.

507.—TUFTED DUCK. *F. fuligula.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1910. "27 from eggs presented" †Report.

Hybrids.

TUFTED DUCK × POCHARD. W.T.P. Vale.
,, ,, × WHITE-EYED POCHARD.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile" (*Wild Animals in Captivity*, p. 217).
,, ,, × WHITE-EYED POCHARD × WILD DUCK HYBRID. W.T.P.

× Tufted Duck (Rosy-billed Duck).

× Tufted Duck (Pochard).

508.—SCOTER. *Oedemia nigra.*
In Page's list with a ? attached.

509.—EIDER DUCK. *Somateria mollissima.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1912. "One hatched from an egg presented." †Report.
And see A.M. 1917, 251, for another record. (St. Quintin).

510.—GOLDEN-EYE. *Clangula glaucion.*
Abroad. Blaauw (Holland) 1908. See *Ibis*, 1909, 188.

ENGLISH NAMES FOR SOME OF THE DUCKS AND GEESE IN THE ABOVE LIST.

438.—SUMMER DUCK. Carolina Duck. Wood Duck.

440.—CAPE BARREN GOOSE. Cereopsis Goose.

442.—BLUE-WINGED SNOW-GOOSE. Blue Goose. Blue Wavey.

447.—DWARF GOOSE. Lesser White-fronted Goose.

457.—UPLAND GOOSE. Magellanic Goose.

461.—WHITE-FACED TREE-DUCK. Widow Duck.

467.—GREY-HEADED SHELDUCK. South African Shelduck.

468.—NEW ZEALAND SHELDUCK. Variegated Shelduck. "Mountain Duck" (in N.Z.).

471.—SOUTH AFRICAN BLACK DUCK. White-spotted Duck.

472.—DUSKY DUCK. Black Duck, in America.

473.—MELLER'S DUCK. Madagascar Wild Duck.

477.—SPOT-BILLED DUCK. Spot-billed Teal.

479.—FALCATED DUCK. Falcated Teal.

484.—BAIKAL TEAL. Clucking Teal.

485.—COMMON TEAL. Green-winged Teal.

488.—YELLOW-BILLED TEAL. Chilian Teal.

491.—CHILIAN PINTAIL. Brown Pintail.

493.—RED-BILLED DUCK. Red-billed Teal.

494.—VERSICOLOR TEAL. Grey Teal.

495.—GARGANEY. Blue-winged Teal.

496.—BLUE-WINGED TEAL. American Garganey.

IBIDIDAE.

511.—GLOSSY IBIS. *Plegadis falcinellus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1903, etc., according to the records, but these, †*Ibis*, 1905, 294, were really hybrids, the entry below.

HYBRIDS.

GLOSSY IBIS × WHITE-FACED GLOSSY IBIS.
Zoo. Frequently since 1895. †*Ibis*, 1905, 294.

512.—WHITE-FACED GLOSSY IBIS. *P. guarauna.*
Hybrids, see above.

513.—WHITE IBIS. *Eudocimus albus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1903.

HYBRIDS.

WHITE IBIS × SCARLET IBIS. W.T.P.

514.—SCARLET IBIS. *E. ruber.*

HYBRIDS.

SCARLET × WHITE IBIS. Zoo. See report 1904.
× Scarlet (White Ibis).

515.—BLACK-FACED IBIS. *Theristicus melanops.*
Abroad, 1st Blaauw (Holland), 1916. See A.M. 1917, 66.

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* SPOONBILL × IBIS hybrid. A reference to such a cross appeared in *Cage Birds*," October 20th, 1901.

SCOPIDAE.

516.—HAMMERHEAD. *Scopus umbretta.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1910. The first time on record; has since bred there again.

◆

ARDEIDAE.

517.—LITTLE EGRET. *Herodias garzetta.*
Bred freely in captivity in Sind, according to an account in the Journal of the Bombay N.H. Society, reprinted in B.N. 1915, p. 96.
A review of the Report of the Giza Zoological Gardens (Flower) in the *Ibis*, 1914, p. 640, quotes the record that over a hundred Egrets were hatched and reared there in 1913.
(? if of this species, and if from collected eggs or from those laid in captivity. E.H.).

◆

518.—NIGHT-HERON. *Nycticorax.*
Has bred in the Zoological Gardens. †Finn, *World's Birds*, 57.

◆

EURYPYGIDAE.

519.—SUN BITTERN. *Eurypyga helias.* **W.T.P.**

◆

CARIAMIDAE.

520.—CRESTED CARIAMA. *Cariama cristata.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1911. In 1912 two were hatched but died young.

◆

PALAMEDEIDAE.

521.—*CRESTED SCREAMER.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1904. 2 reared, the first time in Europe; (and see *Ibis*, 1905, 143).
In 1905, 4 were reared; in 1906, 2, and in 1913, 1.

◆

CICONIIDAE.

522.—WHITE STORK. *Ciconia ciconia.* **W.T.P.**
Kew Gardens 1902. See *Field*, August 2, 1902. At the time of the communication, the single young bird was 3 months old.
Zoo, 1913, 3 reared. Unsuccessful attempts in the two previous years.

(To be continued).

The Yellow-rumped Seed-eater or Serin
(Serinus angolensis).

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., etc.

This Serin is, though only clad in sober plumage, one of the prettiest of the many sweet songsters which reach us from South Africa. It has an extensive range and is very plentiful in the Transvaal area.

Photo E. O. Page.

Nest of Yellow-rumped Serin.

Mr. W. E. Teschemaker obtained a number of this species in 1905, and succeeded in fully rearing young, for the first time in Gt. Britain, in 1907. He kindly presented me with a pair, which successfully reared several young broods, and I certainly include it as a prolific breeder.

In appearance the Yellow rump greatly resembles the Grey Singingfinch, but is more of an olive tinge of brown, has some dark brown markings on the throat, and a bright yellow rump; the latter feature being most apparent when the bird is in flight, and when so exercising and disporting about the aviary it is a strikingly pretty bird.

Most of the serins construct open cup-shaped nests in the aviary shrubs and bushes for preference, but this species, both with Mr. Teschemaker and myself showed a decided predilection for a nest box as a nesting site. Mr. Teschemaker's first clutch of eggs was hatched out in February, and one young bird successfully reared, and in the following year they hatched out with me equally early in the year, and one young bird was successfully reared. With me they nested three times annually so long as they remained with me--in the end the cock bird met with a tragic end, being killed by a Green Singingfinch one or more young birds being reared from each brood, the young being sold as opportunity offered. The young were reared without any special food being offered, they partook of the general seed *menu*, viz. millet, canary, and wild seeds; of soft food they ate but sparingly, but eagerly snapped up al the meal-worms they could get, being less eager for these, however, when there were no young to feed; when feeding young they were on the forage for midges, etc., the live-long day.

Serins of all species make fascinating birds for the mixed aviary, being mostly prettily or brightly clad, full of vivacity and interest, and are, moreover, sweet songsters of more or less power. Their song is of the canary-type, but softer, sweeter and more restrained.

Serinus angolensis are devoted parents to their young, indefatigable feeders and brooders, and watch over the welfare of their progeny unceasingly till the next brood makes its exit from their nest, when their kiddies of the former brood are driven off and kept at a distance—this latter feature caused me to dispose of the young as early as possible, especially as my aviary in those days was somewhat overcrowded. Odd unmated birds of either sex should not be permitted in the breeding aviary.

This species, also other serins, readily inter-mate, also with the domestic canary, and produce pleasing and sweet singing hybrids.

For the benefit of new readers I may add in conclusion that the above details may be successfully applied to the keeping and breeding of any species of serin. Perhaps the one difference among serins is the predilection of one species more than another for mealworms and variableness as to amiability.

◆

Some Waterfowl in Wartime.

By W. Shore Baily.

If there was one class of bird kept by our members that suffered more than another from war conditions, it surely must have been the Waterfowl, and I fancy that very few collectors

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Rosy-billed Ducks.

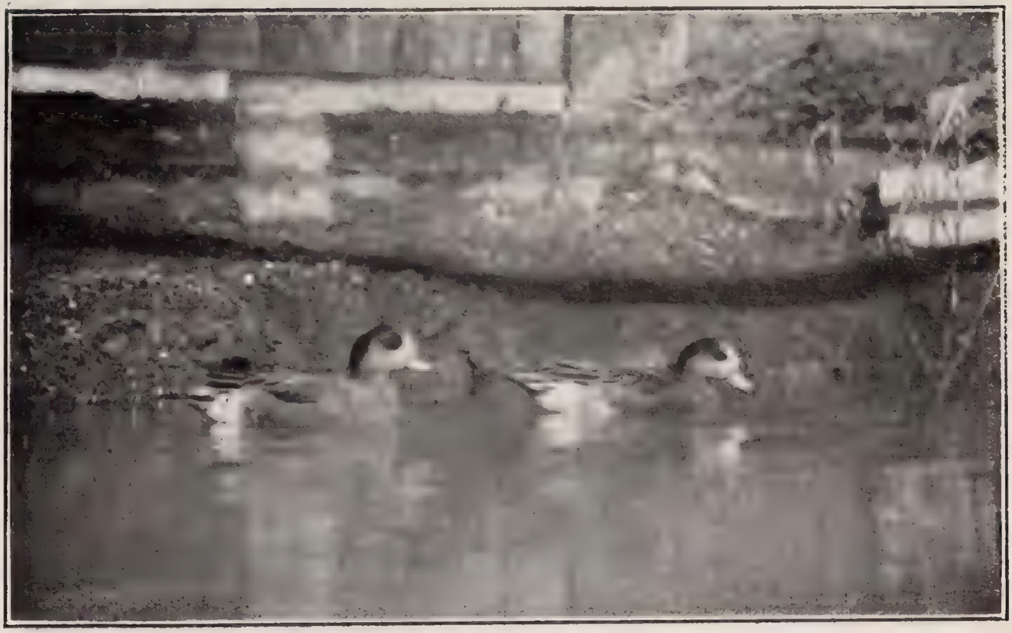


Photo by W. Shore Baily.

Chili × English Wigeon Hybrids.

have yet reached their pre-war numbers. However, birds are now coming in from South America and South Africa, and others are being once more offered in Holland, so there are hopes that we may see, this summer, our public ornamental waters again alive with their presence. My little collection of about fifteen pairs was pretty well wiped out during the war, partly by malnutrition, caused by the very indifferent food with which we were able to feed them, and partly by the depredations of foxes, which had greatly increased in numbers in this district, owing to the cessation of hunting. In spite of these troubles a few young ones were reared each year, and were duly exported to U.S.A. *via* Mr. Hamlyn.

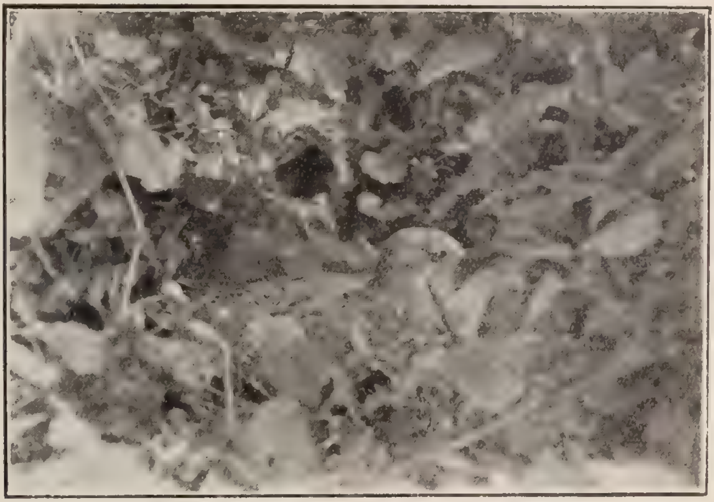


Photo W. Shore Baily.

Wigeon Sitting.

We had practically no luck when the eggs were left to the parent birds, as they seem to be quite unable to look after more than one young one at a time, and, as far as I remember, none of my ducks ever reared more than one young one in a season. They generally hatch out quite a good troop, but these disappear one by one, until only one is left, victims probably to the murderous assaults of other Waterfowl, or to prowling rats and other vermin. Under hens or in artificial rearers they do much better, but it is essential to keep them away from water until they are practically fully feathered. Amongst the ducks that reared young on the pond were Red-crested Pochards, Wigeon, Pintail, and Chilian Teal; in each case one duckling only being reared. As these were unpinioned they sooner or later fell victims to neighbouring gunners. With those reared under hens and in the Foster Mothers we were more successful, and quite a few young Red-crested Pochards, Rosy-billed Ducks,

White-faced and Fulvous Tree Ducks.

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Common Wigeon, and Cinnamon Teal were raised.

The most interesting events were the rearing of hybrids between Chilian Wigeon and Common Wigeon, and between Chilian and Cinnamon Teal. Of the first cross five were brought up under a hen, and when in full plumage were very handsome birds, closely resembling the American Wigeon or Bald-pate (*Mareca americana*). All five birds were drakes. The hybrid Teal was bred on the pond this summer, and at the time of nesting it very much resembles the duck Cinnamon Teal but has the conspicuously marked and rather short bill of the Chilian Teal. I am afraid that it is a female. I should have much preferred a male, as the variation in markings and colour would have been much more interesting. Neither of these crosses appear in Dr. Hopkinson's lists. Another cross-mating was between a Yellow-billed drake and a Pintail duck. One young one from these birds lived for a week or two, but eventually disappeared.

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Rosy-billed Duck Sitting.

I am looking forward this year to a more favourable breeding season, as, now that food is more easily procurable, it will be again possible to use incubators. Young Mallard are quite easy to rear artificially; the principal thing seems to be to keep them away from water. If allowed to swim before they are practically fully feathered, they almost invariably succumb to cramp, and, even if they do survive, they are usually more or less rickety.

About the most attractive of the smaller Waterfowl are to my mind the Tree Ducks. Of these I have kept the White fronted and the Fulvous. The latter are great divers, obtaining a considerable portion of their food from the bottom of the pond. They remain under water a long time, longer, I think, than either the Red-crested Pochard or the Rosy-billed Ducks. The White-faced Ducks seem to prefer feeding in the shallower water, as did their relatives, the Red-billed Whistling Ducks that I used to see and occasionally shoot in Western America. Neither of these birds attempted to nest with me during the three years I kept them, but I am not certain that I had true pairs. I have not seen them perching in the trees, although they had plenty of chances of doing so.

◆

The God of the Open Air.

By Henry Van Dyke.

I.

Thou Who hast made Thy dwelling fair
With flowers beneath, above the starry lights,
And set Thine altars everywhere
On mountain heights,
In woodlands dim with many a dream,
In valleys bright with springs,
And on the curving capes of every stream;
Thou Who hast taken to Thyself the wings
Of morning, to abide
Upon the secret places of the sea,

And on far islands, where the tide
Visits the beauty of untrodden shores,
Waiting for worshippers to come to Thee
In Thy great out-of-doors.
To Thee I turn, to Thee I make my prayer,
God of the open air.

II.

Seeking for Thee the heart of man
Lonely and longing ran
In that first solitary hour
When the mysterious power
To know and love the wonder of the morn
Was breathed within him, and his soul was born;
And Thou didst meet Thy child,
Not in some hidden shrine,
But in the freedom of the garden wild,
And take his hand in Thine;
There all day long in Paradise he walked,
And in the cool of evening with Thee talked.

III.

Lost, long ago, that garden bright and pure,
Lost that calm day, too perfect to endure;
And lost the child-like love that worshipped and was sure!
For men have dulled their eyes with sin,
And dimmed the light of Heaven with doubt,
And built their temple walls to shut Thee in,
And framed their iron creeds to shut Thee out.
But not for Thee the closing of the door,
O Spirit unconfined!
Thy ways are free
As is the wandering wind:
And Thou hast wooed Thy children to restore
Their fellowship with Thee,
In peace of soul and simpleness of mind.

IV.

Joyful the heart that, when the flood rolled by,
Leaped up to see the rainbow in the sky;

And glad the pilgrim in the lonely night
For whom the hills of Haran, tier on tier,
Built up a stairway to the height
Where stars like angel eyes were shining clear.
From mountain-peaks, in many a land and age,
Disciples of the Persian seer
Have hailed the rising sun and worshipped Thee;
And way-worn followers of the Indian sage
Have found the peace of God beneath a spreading tree.
But One, but One,—O child most dear,
And perfect image of the love unseen,—
Walked every day in pastures green,
And all His life the quiet waters by,
Reading their beauty with a tranquil eye,
To Him the desert was a place prepared
For weary hearts to rest;
The hill-side was a Temple blest;
The grassy vale a banquet-room,
Where He could feed and comfort many a guest.
With Him the lily shared
The vital joy that breathes itself in bloom;
And every bird that sang beside the nest
Told of the love that broods o'er every living thing.
He watched the shepherd bring
His flock at sundown to the welcome fold,
The fisherman at daybreak fling
His net across the waters grey and cold,
And all day long the patient reaper swing
His curving sickle through the harvest-gold.
So through the world the foot-path way He trod,
Drawing the air of Heaven in every breath;
And in the evening sacrifice of death
Beneath the open sky He gave His soul to God.
Him will I trust and for my Master take:
Him will I follow, and for His dear sake,
God of the open air,
To Thee I make my prayer,

V.

From the prison of anxious thought that greed has builded,
From the fetters that envy has wrought and pride has gilded,
From the noise of the crowded ways, and the fierce confusion,
From the folly that wastes its days in a world of illusion,
(O, but the life is lost that frets and languishes there!)
I would escape and be free in the joy of the open air.
By the breadth of the blue that shines in silence o'er me,
By the length of the mountain-lines that stretch before me,
By the height of the cloud that sails, with rest in motion,
Over the plains and the vales to the measureless ocean,
(O, how the sight of things that are great enlarges the eyes!)
Lead me out of the narrow life to the peace of the hills and the skies.

While the tremulous leafy haze on the woodland is spreading,
And the bloom on the meadow betrays where May has been treading,
While the birds on the branches above, and the brooks flowing under
Are singing together of love in a world full of wonder,
(Lo, in the marvel of springtime dreams are changed into truth!)
Quicken my heart and restore the beautiful hopes of youth.
By faith that the flowers show when they bloom unbidden,
By the calm of the rivers' flow to a goal that is hidden,
By the trust of the tree that clings to its deep foundation,
By the courage of wild birds' wings on the long migration,
(Wonderful secret of peace that abides in nature's breast!)
Teach me how to confide, and live my life, and rest.
For the comforting warmth of the sun that my body embraces,
For the cool of the waters that run through the shadowy places
For the balm of the breezes that brush my face with their fingers,
For the vesper-hymn of the thrush when the twilight lingers,
For the long breath, the deep breath, the breath of a heart without care,
I will give thanks and adore Thee, GOD of the open air.

VI.

These are the gifts I ask
Of Thee, Spirit serene,
Strength for the daily task,
Courage to face the road,
Good cheer to help me bear the traveller's load,
And for the hours of rest that come between
An inward joy in all things heard and seen.
These are the sins I fain
Would have Thee take away:—
Malice, and cold disdain,
Hot anger, and sullen hate,
Scorn of the lowly, envy of the great,
And discontent that casts a shadow grey
On all the brightness of the common day.
These are the things I prize
And hold of dearest worth:—
Light of the sapphire skies,
Peace of the silent hills,
Shelter of woods, and comfort of the grass,
Music of birds, murmur of little rills,
Shadow of clouds that swiftly pass,
And, after showers,
The smell of flowers,
And of the good brown earth;
And best of all, along the way, friendship and mirth.
So let me keep
These treasures of the humble heart
In true possession, owning them by love;
And when at last I can no longer move
Among them freely, but must part
From the green fields, and from the waters clear,
Let me not creep
Into some darkened room, and hide

From all that makes the world so bright and dear;
But throw the windows wide
To welcome in the light;
And while I clasp a well-beloved hand,
Let me once more have sight
Of the deep sky and the far-smiling land,
Then gently fall on sleep,
And breathe my body back to nature's care,
My spirit out to Thee, GOD of the open air.

◆

Fecundity of Swainson's Lorikeets.

SIR LEO CHIOZZA MONEY WRITES:—

Archibald, my veteran Blue Mountain Lory, has evidently heard that down Eton way there is a pair of his kind, belonging to Dr. Amsler, which breeds all the year round with regularity and despatch. To-day being January 6th, 1920, and a dull cold, uncomfortable day at that, I find that Archie and his wife have in their barrel two unfledged youngsters, evidently a few days old. I have been very busy and have had no time for accurate observation, but I gathered recently that the lady was sitting. This particular pair of Lorikeets has never bred in the winter before. Their barrel is in a cold shelter, but they spend all their time, save when the hen is incubating, in the open flight, whatever the weather.

This is the third brood of this pair of birds since the Spring of 1919.

For hardiness Swainson's Lorikeets seem difficult to beat and they never cease to amuse.

A Nest of Pallas' Fishing Eagle.

(Haliaetus leucoryphus).

By Hugh Whistler, F.Z.S., etc.

On the morning of 12th December last I was on the march on tour and was just approaching the railway bridge which crosses the River Chenab, near Jhang (Punjab) when the distant cries of a pair of Pallas' Fishing Eagle caught my ear. Reining up my horse and looking in their direction, I soon spied a large mass in a tree some half mile away which appeared likely to be their eyrie, so I rode off to investigate, followed by my camel orderly.

It did not take long to reach the tree in question, and a near approach showed that this was certainly the Eagles' nest, though at the moment no bird was in sight. For the last two years I had seen a pair of these fine birds about, and suspected that they must breed somewhere in this neighbourhood, though I had not actually found the site. That the spot had been tenanted for some time was clear from the presence of two nests in different trees. The new one was a huge flat-looking but deep structure placed on the extreme summit of an aged but not very high Peepul tree; on another larger tree some fifteen yards away were the ruins, yet substantial, of another nest clearly belonging to the same pair. These trees were growing by the ruins of an abandoned irrigation-well in a small straggling clump of palm trees; the ground was low, the river and cultivation which at certain seasons is flooded by the rising of the river, now a mere sluggish trickle about a mile away.

The Camel Sowar knew his business without orders. He barracked the Camel, and disencumbering himself of unnecessary clothing started the ascent of the Peepul tree. The climb was no easy one from the shape of the tree and the fact that a portion of the climb was impeded by the head of a neighbouring date-palm. However, the climber worked on and was reaching the nest when, to my astonishment—for one way and another we had made a certain amount of noise, but had seen nothing of the birds—a Fishing Eagle rose from the nest and started to circle round and round within easy range of us.

Arrived at the nest Nur Khan found that his difficulties were by no means ended. The site of the nest and the hugeness of its thorny structure were such that it appeared at first as if he would be unable to examine its contents; while an awkward situation was not improved by the presence of a comb of wild bees in the foundations. However, the cold had made the bees quiescent, and a careful plucking away of thorny branches at last enabled him to see into the nest, which proved to contain three eggs resting on a thick lining of coarse grass. All the time the Eagle had continued circling round with no attempt at attacking the climber, and it was then joined by the second bird, which a bystander assured me came out of the old nest; whether this was correct I did not see for myself, but both birds finally settled on the tree containing the old eyrie, and watched our proceedings until I walked under it and stared up at them; this caused them to leave for the river. No food remains were found in the nest, nor did I observe any castings under the tree.

The eggs were brought down with difficulty, but reached the bottom safely. They were rather incubated and a little dirty and stained, of a pure white colour and somewhat coarse texture, with a faint gloss. They measure 67 x 56, 65.5 x 56 and 66.5 x 55.5 millimetres.

◆

Editorial.

The God of the Open Air: Possibly some of our readers may privately criticise the inclusion of this poem in a purely avicultural journal. The Spirit of the Open Air breathes in every pulse of our fascinating hobby, and, if any members should, to themselves, cavil at the inclusion of the poem, the remedy lies in their own hands, viz: the sending in of so much copy that there should be no room for the exercise of our choice in such matters. Personally, we feel no excuse is needed for its insertion.

A Birdroom Catastrophe: A deplorable disaster has befallen our member Mr. T. Hebb, of Luton. He has a

Syphon condensor Gas Stove in his birdroom. While he was from home this went wrong and fumed, the room was found full of black smoke, and a number of birds dead, including:

4 Blue Budgerigars, ♀
4 Queen Whydahs.
4 Pintail Whydahs.
2 Paradise Whydahs.

One of the hen Blue Budgerigars had eggs, and at first he felt like selling all survivors and never looking at another bird! Instead, he began to look round for replaces, and succeeded in getting 2 Blue Budgerigar hens and 5 Whydahs. Such mishaps are too discouraging and sad for words, and though it counts for but little Mr. Hebb will have the full sympathy of his fellow aviculturists. The only *really* safe method of heating is by hot-water radiators or pipes, with, whatever be the fuel used, attendance or stoking outside the room or aviary, though the boiler may project inside, providing there is no means of access for the products of combustion to get into the room.

The Prospect: Very few words need be said upon this topic. The prospect is brighter than it has been for the past four years—birds are coming to hand in ever increasing numbers, and, though foods are still costly, the tendency is downward. All that is needed to increase the interest and utility of the Club Journal Bird Notes, is for members to send in copy as in pre-war times, and, if our aviaries and their occupants have not, as yet, " got into their stride "—there remain practically unlimited records and episodes of the past not as yet published, which would not only prove of greatest interest, but also enable our members to deduce useful lessons therefrom. A little later the doings in our aviaries will provide abundant matter for our journal. Meantime we urge our members to cull unpublished records and episodes from their notes, and send them in, so as profitably and practically to bridge the gap of the next few months. Our aim is that all classes of birds, large and small, shall be equally represented in Bird Notes, and, with the co-operation of members generally this can be easily realised.

Collecting and Importing Birds Privately and by Humane Methods: Two months ago we published a letter from Lord Tavistock suggesting that F.B.C. members combine and collect and import their birds by irreproachable methods—this letter called forth numerous favourable responses. Your Hon. Editor and Sec. cannot, however, though in full sympathy with the project, undertake further duties, as they find themselves unable to cope with their present work with the punctuality they would wish. We suggest that the Marquis of Tavistock outline his scheme and that those ready to support the project (viz: to send out a collector to trap and collect the birds and personally bring them home) form themselves into a committee to give effect to so desirable a scheme.

THE LATE PUBLICATION OF BIRD NOTES: The cause of this as regards December issue was mainly the preparation of the indices, and as regards the present issue the revision of the roll is the main cause. To this, however, we must add having to wait for copy beyond the proper date of going to press. It is very desirable that with next and future issues we should get as near as possible to the proper publishing date, viz: the 15th of each month. To enable him to do this the Editor needs copy, and he asks that 20 (twenty) articles be sent him at once. This can easily be done on the lines indicated under "PROSPECT" without hardship to any. It will not be well for our Journal to have either an excess of reprints or matter from the editorial pen. We press this subject upon the attention of each individual member.

IN LIGHTER VEIN: From a recent number of *Punch* we reprint the following:

"A Naturalist heard a plumber piping in Surrey last "week."

"The close season for carol singers is now over and "several coveys have been seen in the suburbs this week."

◆

Book Notices and Reviews

REVUE D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE APPLIQUEE. Publié par LA SOCIETE NATIONALE D'ACCLIMATATION DE FRANCE. L'OISEAU. Edited by Jean Delacour. Subscription 25 francs per annum. AU. SIEGE SOCIAL, 198 Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris (viie).

We have received the first part of a new Revue, to be issued in two parts regularly, 1 part dealing with birds, entitled L'OISEAU, and the other parts dealing with: Mammalogie, Pisciculture, Entomologie, Botanique, and Colonisation. This notice only deals with the bird section *L'Oiseau*, and the subscription rates given above are for this section only. The Contents of Part I. are of great interest and as follows:

E. Perrier.—*L'Oiseau.* Introduction.
D. Seth-Smith.—Les Oiseaux au Jardin Zoologique de Londres (*illustré*).
J. Delacour.—Les Oiseaux-Mouches en captivité.
Dr. Millet-Horsin.—Faits observés sur les Oiseaux.
A. Decoux.—Observations sur queljues hybrides de Plocéidês (*illustre*).
G. Dupond.—En Belgique pendant i'occupation.
Chronique ornithologique.

Those of our readers who are acquainted with the French language would find *L'Oiseau* replete with avicultural episodes and history of great practical interest.

The article on "Ploceidæ hybrids" in above issue is intensely interesting—among others notes are given on hybrids between the following species:

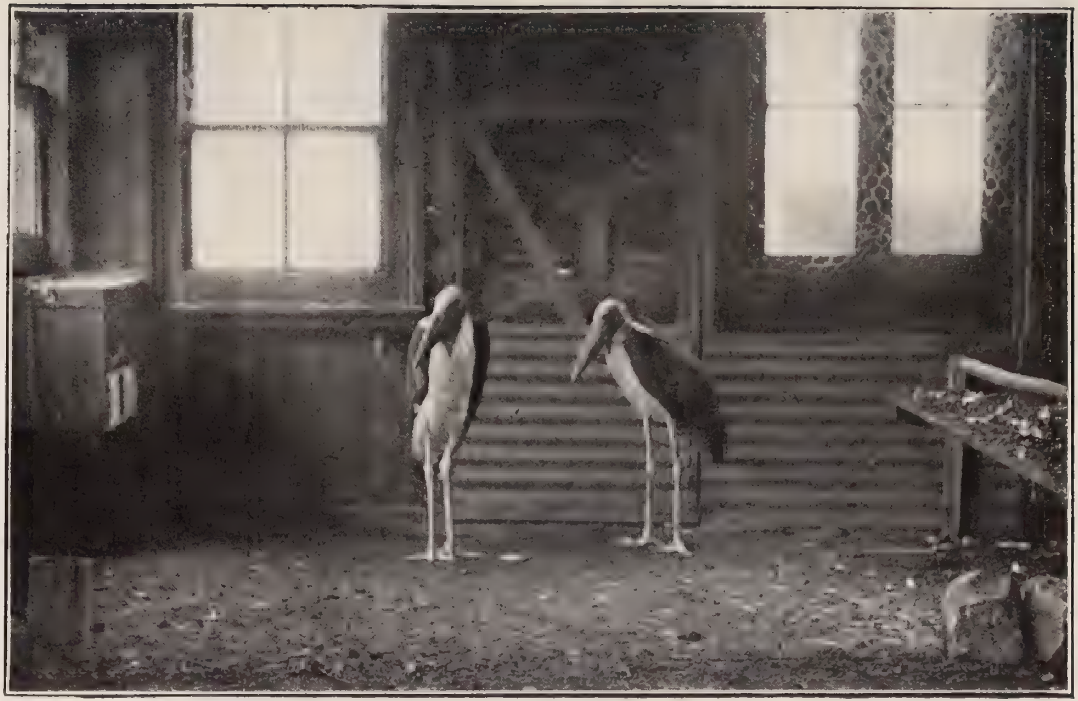
Melba Finch × Cordon Bleu.
Violet-eared Waxbill × Cordon Bleu.
Cherry Finch × Zebra Finch.

A coloured plate (tricolour process) figures the first named, and a line-drawing text figure of the last-named is also given. We hope to make extracts from this article in our next issue.

The other articles are equally pregnant with interest to aviculturists.

We cordially commend L'OISEAU to our readers.

W.T.P.



Adjutant Storks.

Juvenile plumage.

Photo E. O. Page.

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BIRD NOTES:

THE

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

The Adjutant Stork.

(Leptoptihus javanicus)

BY WESLEY T. PAGE, F.Z.S.

There are two species of Adjutants, the larger *(L. dubius)* and the smaller *(L. javanicus)*; the latter is the subject of these notes and the accompanying plate.

I have often watched these fascinating but grotesque birds at the London Zoo with much interest, pleasure and mirth, for one cannot see them during a period of activity without a hearty laugh at their " cake-walk " dances, caperings, etc.

I have known the Zoo for many years, and I do not remember them ever being without several Adjutants, but I do not call to mind seeing the smaller species *(javanicus)* there, and at the moment of writing I have not time to look up their list. It is much less common than *dubius*.

Jerdon, in his *Birds of India*, designates *dubius*, The Gigantic Stork (length 5ft.), and *javanicus*, the Hair-crested Stork (length 4½ft.). The latter is also less heavily built than the former.

Of *javanicus* Jerdon states:

> " This species of Adjutant is found in small numbers throughout
> " India frequenting marshes, inundated paddy fields, and the edges of
> " lakes and rivers. It prefers a wooded country, and in the South of
> " India I have only seen it on the Malabar Coast. It is rare in Central
> " India and the Upper Provinces, is now and then found in Lower Bengal,
> " and is more common in Assam, Sylhet, and Burmah, extending thence
> " through the Malayan Peninsula to some of the islands. It feeds on
> " fish, frogs, and more especially crabs, and also on large locusts.
> " Buchanan Hamilton found it breeding in a large Mangotope in the

" Purneah district; the nests very small and rude. Its Bengalese name
' *Modun-tiki* is applied to it ironically, from its ugly head and neck, the
" expression meaning that the hair of its head is as beautiful as that of
" Modun, one of the sons of Krishna."

Before proceeding to describe the pair of birds figured on our plates, especially as this pair have only been with me about three months, I propose quoting, almost *in extenso*, the interesting chapter on Adjutant Birds, from Mr. Douglas Dewar's book *Birds of the Plains*, though his notes refer chiefly to the large species *(L. dubius)*.—

" The adjutant bird *(Leptoptilus dubius)* is one of Nature's little
" jokes. It is a caricature of a bird, a mixture of gravity and clownishness.
" Everything about it is calculated to excite mirth—its weird figure, its
" great beak, its long thin legs, its conspicuous pouch, its bald head, and
" every attitude it strikes. The adjutant bird is a stork which has
" acquired the habits of a vulture. Forsaking to a large extent frogs and
" such like delicacies, which constitute the normal diet of its kind, it lives
" chiefly upon offal. Now, most, if not all, birds which feed on carrion
" have the head and neck devoid of feathers. This arrangement, if not
" ornamental ,is very useful. The bare head and neck are, as ' Eha.'
" remarks, ' the sleeves tucked up for earnest work.' The Adjutant
" forms no exception to the rule, it wears the badge of its profession.
" But let me here give a full description of this truly comic bird. It
" stands five feet in its stockings. Its bill is over a foot in length and
" correspondingly massive. As we have seen, the whole head and neck
" are bare, except for a few feathers scattered over it like the hairs on an
" elephant's head. The bare skin is not lacking in colour. On the fore-
" head it is blackish; it becomes saffron-yellow on the upper neck, while
" lower down it turns to brick red. There is a ruff of white feathers round
" the base of the neck. This ruff, of course, appears entirely out of
" place and adds to the general grotesqueness of the bird. The back and
" wings are ashy-black, becoming slaty-grey at the breeding season. The
" lower parts are white."

" As if the creature, thus arrayed, were not sufficiently comic, Nature
" has given it a great pouch which dangles from the neck. This is over a
" foot in length and hangs down like a bag when inflated. It is red in
" colour, spotted with black. Its situation naturally leads one to believe
" that it is connected with the gullet, that it is a receptacle into which
" the bird can hastily pass the garbage it swallows pending more complete
" disposal. But it is nothing of the sort. It does not communicate
" directly with the oesophagus. Knowing this, one is able to appreciate
" to the full the splendid mendacity of the writer in *Chamber's Journal* in
" 1861, who declares that he saw an adjutant swallow a crow, which he
" watched ' pass into the sienna-toned pouch of the gaunt avenger. He
" who writes saw it done.' "

" Note the last sentence. The scribe was evidently of opinion that people would not believe him, so thought to clinch matters by bluffing! But, to do him justice, it is quite possible that he did see an Adjutant swallow a crow, for other observers have witnessed this, but the remainder of the story rests upon the sandy foundation of the imagination. If the truth must be told, we do not know for certain what the use of the pouch is. Blyth suggested that it is analogous to the air cell attached to one lung of the python or the boa-constrictor, and, as in that case, no doubt supplies oxygen to the lungs during protracted meals. The bird can thus ' guzzle ' to its heart's content without having to stop every now and then to take a ' breather.' "

" But we must now return to the appearance of the bird, for the account of this is not yet complete, since no mention has been made of its eye. This is white and very small, and so gives the bird a wicked, knowing expression, like that of an elephant. Col. Cunningham speaks of ' the malignantly sneaking expression of the pallid eyes.' This is perhaps a little severe on the Adjutant, but it is, I fear, quite useless to deny the fact that he has ' a canister look in his heye.'

" A mere description of the shape and colouring of the Adjutant does not give any idea of his comicality. It is his acts rather than his appearance that makes him so ludicrous. Except when floating high above the earth on his great pinions the bird always looks grotesque. To say that he, as he walks along, recalls a hunch-backed old man who is deliberately ' clowning ' is to give a hopelessly inadequate idea of the absurdity of his movements. Lockwood Kipling is nearer the mark when he says : ' For grotesque devilry of dancing the Indian Adjutant beats creation. Don Quixote or Malvolio were not half so solemn or so mincing, and yet there is an abandonment of lightness of step, a wild lift in each solemn prance, which are almost demoniacal. If it were possible for the most angular, tall, and demure of elderly maiden ladies to take a great deal too much champagne and then to give lessons in ballet dancing, with occasional pauses of acute sobriety, perhaps some faint idea might be conveyed of the peculiar quality of the Adjutant's movements ' . . . . Adjutants are nowhere very abundant ; they are nevertheless spread over the whole of Northern India, but do not appear to be found so far south as Madras. Another species, however— the smaller Adjutant *(L. javanicus)*— has been observed on the Malabar coast."

This pair of birds arrived in a case about 5ft. x 4ft. x 4½ft., and getting them from the docks to London, and from London to Lingfield was a trying and troublesome task. My troubles began at Tilbury, for there the stationmaster at first refused to let me bring them on, for the case and birds weighed over 2 cwt., and there has been a rule since war broke out that no one package per passenger train must exceed 1 cwt., and for a time the Tilbury stationmaster stood doggedly to the letter of the law, and I fear I did not entirely conceal the irritation I felt; however, a little tact and blarney overcame the difficulty and he let me proceed by a later train. I will not recount my difficulties in getting them across London from Fenchurch St. to London Bridge (for I simply dare not give the details of irritation and "langwidge" fortunately spoken only to my inner senses). I arrived at the former place at 6-45 p.m., and the last train left the latter place for Lingfield at 7-38! However, I just managed it, and arrived at Lingfield at 9-15 with my consignment. I took the smaller cages straight to my poultry-yard and left the Storks at the station till the next morning,

Storks in Mr. Harper's Calcutta Garden-paddock.

when I got a near-by farmer to bring them over for me—thus arrived my first pair of Storks, which were to remain with me for some little time.

They arrived in most excellent condition, thanks to Mr. E. W. Harper's careful packing, and his care of them before they were shipped, and above is a photo-reproduction of them in Mr. Harper's garden-paddock at Calcutta.

In a couple of days I turned them loose into a large (35ft. x 15ft.) airy and lofty shed, which is well ventilated, with large windows along its 35ft. front, which faces S.W. Here they have done well and are slowly passing from juvenile to adult plumage.

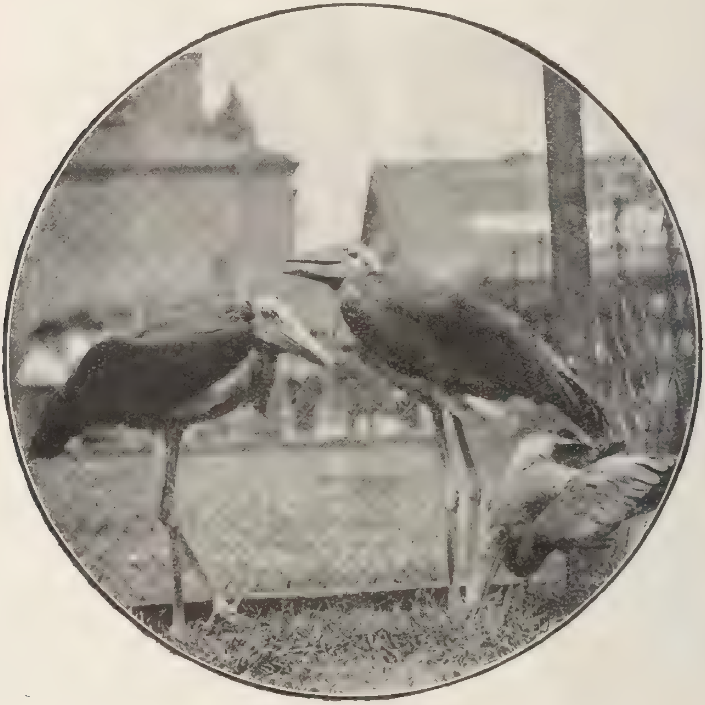
Their bill of fare has presented no trouble up to the present. They consume about 15 lbs. of fish and 5 to 7 lbs. of meat offal weekly. They are fully as mirth provoking and grotesque as Mr. Dewar so graphically describes them in the notes I have quoted as an introduction.

Being still juvenile, though full grown, they do not, as yet, indulge to the full in the mirth provoking "cake-walks" and displays of adult birds, but their rapid transition from gravity to the ridiculous is comic in the extreme. At one moment stalking with grave dignity up and down the shed and the next indulging in the most absurd of "goose-steps" that one explodes into unrestrained laughter on witnessing it, but when bills, head, neck, wings and legs (3ft. long) are all going at once in the wildest and most absurd prancing or dancing, the sight is too funny for words.

Their neck-pouches are as yet only partially developed. little more than indicated as yet, and I have not, up to the present, witnessed any attempt on their part to inflate them. I have, however, seen them on several occasions disgorge a fresh herring or sprat after having swallowed it, leave it on the ground for five minutes or so, and then swallow and retain it. One of them is already tame enough to take a fresh herring from the hand, and both will catch fish or meat in their bills most adroitly, when thrown to them from a distance or from near at hand. Their white neck ruffs are beginning to show.

For any one having a small paddock with a small shed I know of no more interesting, or out-of-the way birds to occupy it. If not exactly things of beauty, they are certainly striking, and their deportment and general characteristics supply a fund of interest and mirth at all seasons of the year. Of course, when so kept, they must either be pinioned, or the flights of one wing cut.

With a background of living green, stalking about the grass (marshy for preference) they have a grotesque beauty of their own, and if they are not claimed before, I shall hope to place them in such quarters (of limited extent) a little later in the year.



Young Marabon Storks.

For the purposes of comparison I am including the above illustration of the African species *(Leptoptilus crumeniferus)* also in juvenile plumage, being three to four months old at the time the photo was taken. I think this pair passed later into the possession of our member Mr. H. Willford in 1910. The squat figure in the extreme right of above photo is the Wood Ibis of the Ethiopian region, *Pseudotantalus ibis.*

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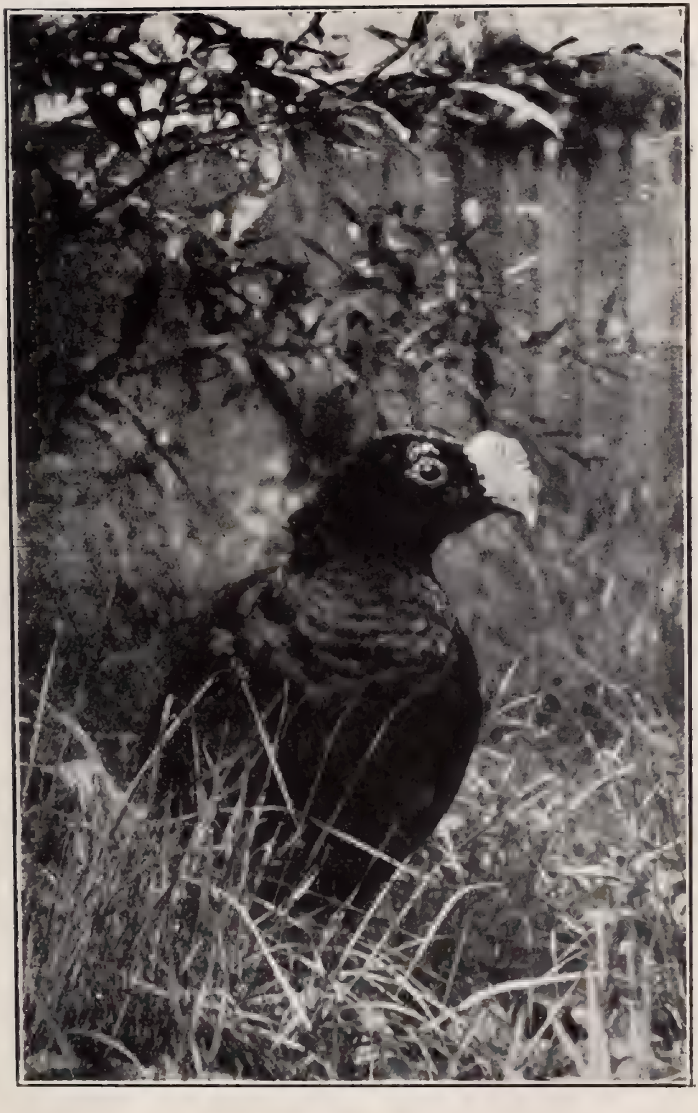

Photo W. Shore Baily

Razor-billed Curassow.

The Razorbill Curassow.

(Mitua mitee)

By W. Shore Baily.

Of the various kinds of Curassows that find their way to this country, probably the Razorbill is the most frequently imported. As can be seen from the photo he is a very handsome glossy black bird, having a patch of buff on the thighs and white tips to the tail. In size he is about as big as a hen Turkey. His most remarkable feature is his bill, which is a truly striking-looking weapon. This is about two inches in depth and of a fiery orange colour. I cannot say that I ever saw my bird use it in defence, or for that matter in attack either as he was of a very quiet and inoffensive disposition. Once when attacked by an aggressive hen Peafowl, he rushed to me for protection, but at that time he was suffering from a wasting sickness, and wasn't very strong. These birds are too large for aviaries, but would do well in paddocks with Cranes, Geese etc. Being arboreal in their habits, trees for them to roost in would be an advantage. Once they were used to a place I doubt if they would wander far from it. When first turned out my bird was rather shy, and would sometimes hide himself On one occasion, being unable to see him at feeding time, I called my man in to help me search, and after nearly ten minutes' seeking we were on the point of giving it up, when I happened to spot his eye, which, by the way, is very large and prominent. The bird was crouched in short grass within a couple of yards of us, and we must have walked within a yard of him more than once. On seeing himself discovered he quietly got up and walked up to be fed. Unfortunately this bird did not live long with me, as he developed a kind of wasting sickness, contracted probably on the vessel that brought him over, from the effects of which he died. Before his death he became very tame and would follow me anywhere.

Its habitat is central America and northern Brazil.

Mr. H. W. Bates, who met with numbers of this species on the Rio Tapagos, writes: —

> "We were amused at the excessive and almost absurd tameness of a

"fine Mutum or Curassow-Turkey that ran about the house. It was a "large glossy black species, having an orange-coloured beak, surmounted "by a bean-shaped excrescence of the same hue. It seemed to consider "itself as one of the family, attended at all the meals, passing from one "person to another round the mat to be fed, and rubbing the sides of its "head in a coaxing way against their cheek or shoulders. At night it "went to roost on a chest in the sleeping-room beside the hammock of "one of the little girls, to whom it seemed particularly attached, following "her wherever she went about the grounds. I found this kind of "Curassow was very common in the forests of the Cupari, but it is rare "on the Upper Amazons. These birds in their natural state never descend "from the tops of the loftiest trees, where they live in small flocks and "build their nests. It is difficult to find why these superb birds have "not been reduced to domestication by the Indians, seeing that they so "readily become tame. The obstacle offered by their not breeding in "confinement, which is probably owing to their arboreal habits, might "perhaps be overcome by repeated experiment, but for this the Indians "probably have not sufficient patience or intelligence."

Their nests are built of sticks, and only two white eggs are laid. Several other species occasionally find their way to our Zoological Gardens and quite recently I have been offered examples of the Lesser Razorbilled *(M. tormentosa)* and the Crested *(Crax alector)*. Any of them are well worth keeping, if the necessary space is available.

◆

My Stock Doves.

By Laurence Pullar, F.Z.S.

I got my Stock Doves from Mr. Cross, of Liverpool, in the autumn of 1915. I had ordered a pair of Ruddy-backed Doves, but as they were sold I took the Stock Doves instead. They were very wild when they arrived; in fact they never got really tame all the time I had them. They had a nasty habit of flying up and hitting themselves against the roof of the aviary. I gave them an aviary to themselves, and in May 1916 I made them a nice artificial rabbit hole for them to nest in. It was about five feet long and had a nest chamber at the end, and by removing a turf from the outside of the aviary I could see if there were any eggs. After a few days I noticed the hen carry some pieces of straw into the hole and on removing the turf some days later I found she had laid the first egg. The second was laid after the interval of one day. There was hardly any nest, only a scrape lined with a few twigs and straws. The eggs were incubated for 5 days when they were deserted. I was very disappointed over this failure, but in a few weeks she laid again, and this time incubated steadily. The eggs were almost due to hatch and my hopes were very high when we had the heaviest floods we have had for years. We put a tarpaulin over the top of the aviary but it was no use. The poor bird was flooded out of her hole in a very short time and my hopes were dashed to the ground. My Ringneck Parrakeets which were incubating a clutch of three eggs had the same fate. A short time afterwards my hen Stock Dove died, and although I tried hard to replace her I was unsuccessful.

There is a small colony of Stock Doves near my home, and if I can hand-rear some this year I shall have another try at breeding them.

◆

The Cirl Bunting.

(Emberiza cirlus).

By Philip Gosse.

I wonder if everyone who is fond of birds has his favourites? I have mine, and I often wonder why some birds should give me greater delight than others. Of English birds my favourites are the Greater Spotted Woodpecker, the Cirl Bunting, and, I think, the Lesser Whitethroat. My weakness for the Greater Spotted Woodpecker may perhaps be because I possessed and loved a very tame one, which would cry out with excitement the moment it saw me at the top of my garden and would scramble about all over me and actually get inside my coat pockets hunting for some tit-bit that might be hiding there.

In England I have only known a few places where the Cirl Bunting was to be found, chiefly in the Isle of Wight. And it is remarkable how the Cirl Bunting remains in one locality. In France, when my division came out to " rest," I would go at once, if we had been in the neighbourhood before, to some hedgerow where I remembered seeing a Cirl Bunting before, and was almost certain to see one or two in the old place. I know no other bird that seems to wander about so little.

There appear to be more male Cirl Buntings than female; partly, I suppose, because the cock is a handsome and bold bird and the hen is less conspicuous and more shy. Again, in the spring, while the hen is incubating, the cock is fond of perching on some high twig in the hedge near where its nest is and spending hours together in the truly bunting habit of doing nothing. All the Buntings appear to have this habit of sitting stolidly for hours together like a yokel with his hands in his pockets.

It has not been my fortune to find many Cirl Buntings' nests; but one I found on May 6th, 1916, in the garden of the Chateau at Hersin Coupigny was low down in a gooseberry bush and contained three eggs; next day the hen was sitting on four eggs, and the cock had taken up a position among the bare twigs in the top of a small tree and kept up an almost continuous trilling. While trilling his monotonous song his head looks upwards, and is kept moving from one side to the other and his bill is open, and he has that rather sly side-long expression that the crossbill has.

The similarity of birds' notes always interests me, and I think that it is often very difficult to distinguish at first the note of the Cirl Bunting from that of the Lesser Whitethroat; in fact, when the bird cannot be seen, the position will almost always tell which bird is singing, as the Cirl seldom sings except when high up off the ground, while the Lesser Whitethroat loves to sing while hopping and creeping about in a low thick hedge or overgrown ditch.

The habit of turning the head from side to side while singing is noticeable in several birds besides the Cirl Bunting; for example, the common Linnet and the Grasshopper Warbler. In the books one reads that the ventriloquist effect of the reeling of the Grasshopper Warbler is due to its habit of moving its head from side to side, but the two other birds I have mentioned do exactly the same without the ventriloquist effect.

I think that the reason for this side to side movement of the head may be either that the bird is keeping a look out for large enemies that might destroy him, or that the song is sung in defiance of males of the same species, as when a cock crows a challenge to other cocks, and the challenger is keeping a sharp look out for any rival who may come to question his right to his own particular piece of hedge or even for his mate.

Or, at the beginning of the mating season he may be keeping a sharp look out for the arrival of a hen which is attracted by his song.

It is desirable that the distribution of the Cirl Bunting in the British Islands should be brought up-to-date, as my impression is that it is found in more places than it used to be, but it may be that more observers are recognising this bird.

Perhaps some of the members of our Society will write and tell us of districts where they know this bird is to be found.

◆

My Whydahs Past and Present.

By S. Williams, F.Z.S.

During the past fifteen years it has been my good fortune to possess several species of this charming family.

My first was the Paradise Whydah *(Steganura paradisea)*, which could be then purchased for about 2/6 each, and so on until the year 1915. This was, of course, when it was out of colour. At this period it is a buff and brown bird with black line on the head. As the breeding season approaches the change is wonderful! The head, beak and wings become black, and a collar of rich mahogany-brown meets on the breast and runs down until it fades away in the buffish-white of the breast and abdomen. From the ordinary tail two long shaft feathers grow which sometimes reach a foot in length, and also two shorter ones shaped like fans, to the ends of which a thin, hair-like growth is attached. When in full plumage this male is very handsome. The hen has no eclipse plumage and remains just a sober buffish colour. Although I had six males together in the aviary they agreed very well, and did not molest smaller birds.

The next addition was the Pin-tail Whydah *(Vidua principalis)*. A more showy bird, being, when in colour, a mixture of black and white, red bill, and four long shaft feathers growing out of the tail, but not so wide as in the first named species. This bird has a pleasant little song, but is somewhat inclined to be troublesome and is fond of scrapping with other inmates of the aviary. There are two varieties: one what we may term the common or freely imported ones; the other less common but very similar.

My next additions were the Golden-backed Whydahs *(Penthetriopsis macrura)*, and two of these beautiful and rare birds, were sent me by a friend. This species is about nine inches in length, including tail and beak. The mantle, scapulars and medium wing-coverts, are a lovely chrome-yellow; the remainder of the plumage is a glossy black. These two cocks remained some time with me; one I sold and the other was found dead, but in perfect plumage, on the floor of the aviary after a bad night air-raid. Possibly the shock of gun firing, which was very heavy and prolonged on that night, caused its death; the same thing happened also to my Jackson's Whydah later. The Jackson's Whydah *(Dreplanoplectes jacksoni)*, which has been figured in BIRD NOTES more than once, hardly needs description, and those who have visited the Small Birds' House at the London Zoo will have noticed some fine specimens in the large flight there.

Of three other members of the family the Golden-shouldered, White-winged *(Urobrachya albonotata)* and Brown shouldered, I have had two cock birds of each; the last named I think, are rare, and I do not remember seeing any other live specimens. When they arrived they were out of colour, but, after being with me for a year, became glossy black with a dull reddish-brown patch under the wing near the shoulder, which also showed slightly on the top; this was mostly noticed when flying.

During part of the war-period I had in the aviary a beautiful pair of Crimson-ringed Whydahs *(Coliostruthus* new aviaries were ready at Lingfield, after moving down there *laticauda)* belonging to our Editor, Mr. Page, when his from Mitcham. I was sorry to part with them; I was still more sorry to hear less than a month later that rats had killed them.

During the time I had my Whydahs none were given artificial heat, and, although sometimes twelve degrees or more of frost were registered, they seemed to enjoy perfect health Having windows in the shelter of my aviary, if they preferred to stop indoors during cold weather they could do so. Nailed on to the wall and against the roof were bundles of dried Michaelmas daisy stems, in which they could keep warm and roost.

Their food during the summer was canary, white and Indian millet, and spray millet; greenfood they could help themselves to in the flight. Mealworms and spiders they were very fond of, and many would take them from my hand. With the advent of autumn and through winter I give a good mixed seed in addition to the usual bill of fare. This was made up of canary, flax, rape, niger, and a liberal portion of cracked hemp all of which they partook freely. I think if more stimulating food is given during winter it keeps all birds more immune from cold and damp. The main thing is a cosy shelter in which to roost, and then, if your birds are in a healthy condition you will get very few deaths from cold.

I had intended to renew my acquaintance with these charming birds now the war is over, but have since decided to have soft-bills, for a time at least, as up to the present my experience with them as aviary birds has been limited to Scarlet Tanagers, Pekin Robins, and one Rosy Pastor. I must, however, keep away from the bird shops when there is a consignment of African birds coming over, or else I shall find myself returning home with Weavers and Whydahs, which have always been my favourites, and probably will remain so. As aviary birds I strongly recommend the Whydahs. In cages they are too cramped, and also are unable to show to the advantage they do in even a small aviary. To see them on the wing with their long, long tails streaming behind them when taking exercise is truly a pretty sight.

The Bengal Eagle-Owl.

(Bubo bengalensis.)

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

The Bengal Eagle-Owl is a very handsome species, of which at the moment I have three, a true pair, and one very fine odd bird (sex?).

They form part of six consignments of Indian birds—which our member Mr. E. W. Harper sent me during 1919—the bulk of these consignments have already been distributed among private aviculturists—and are interesting and beautiful birds.

A glance at the plate accompanying these notes will render a description unnecessary, if I state that the dark areas and markings of the plumage are a rich chocolate-brown; and the lighter, and light markings are two shades of rich tawny.

I much regret a better photo could not be obtained, but I have the bird in a large case, in a roomy unheated shed, and to increase this difficulty the light at this time of year has very little actinic-value; thus I was unable to use either a colour screen or orthochromatic plates, either of which would have required such an exposure that movement would have spoiled all results. Later, as light improves, I hope to secure good photos in many interesting attitudes.

Their call-note is a deep bass *hoo-hoo* and neither irritating nor disturbing.

When I turned the pair out of their travelling cage into the rough enclosure I had prepared for them, 6ft. x 8ft. x 12ft. high, they showed their satisfaction by flying on to stumps, flapping their wings, uttering a succession of *hoo-hoo-hoos*, then settling down into restful pose they favoured us with a prolonged stare and looked wise!

The only thing I have been able to find about the wild life of this species is that they eat reptiles and crabs.

Neither Oates nor Jerdon have anything to say about this species in *Fauna of British India-Birds* or *Birds of India.*

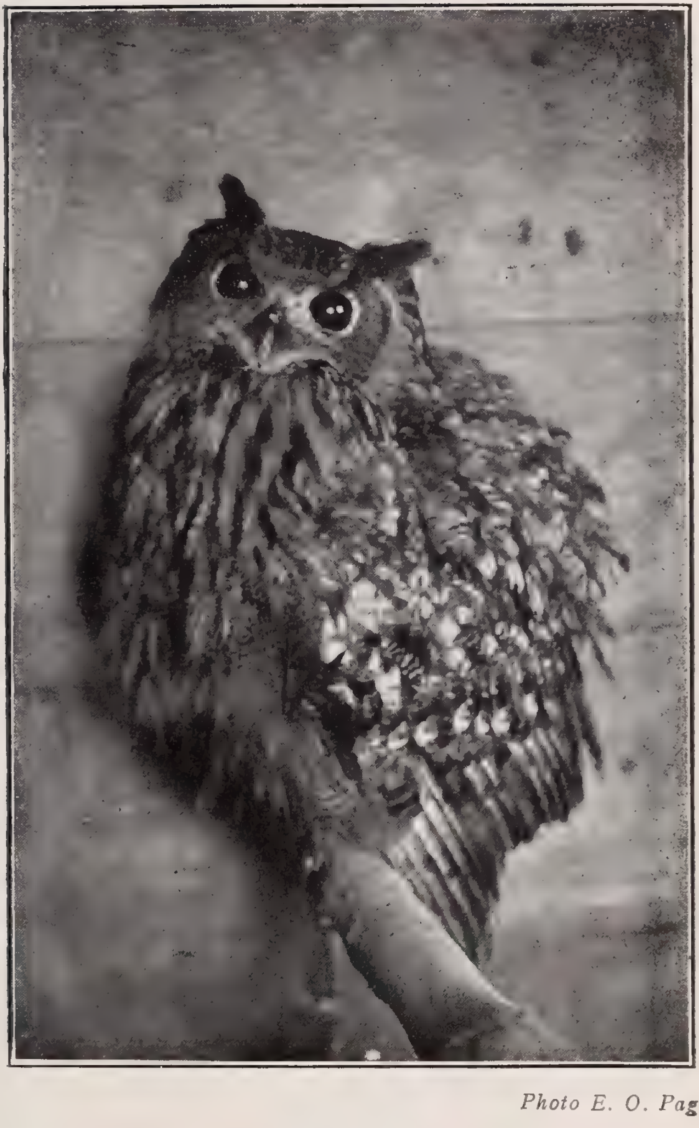

Photo E. O. Page.

Bengal Eagle-Owl.
(Bubo bengalensis).

The deportment of my birds leads me to the conclusion that they must be partly diurnal in their habits as they sleep but little during the day, and apparently take an interest in what goes on around, and also in all persons that look in to admire them. The odd bird, which has been with me longest, will already take meat, or a dead mouse from the hand. My birds also eat their food during the day, and except once, when in error food was given them on their fast day, I have never seen any food left in their quarters when I lock up for the night, which I always have done in daylight since they have been with me.

I feed them on meat-offal, mice, small birds, rats and rabbit.

Mr. D. Dewar, in *Glimpses of Indian Birds*, under the heading of " Voices of the Night," writes: " It must suffice to make mention of the low, solemn booming *durgoon, durgoon* " of the huge rock horned-owl *(Bubo bengalensis)*."

Thus, apparently, I have only as yet heard the juvenile call from my birds.

The two following extracts are from the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society*.

Vol. XVII., p. 727. " Birds of Kashmir and Jamma."
" *Bubo bengalensis.*—The Rock-horned Owl is common; it lays its eggs in March and April."

Vol. XX., p. 959. " Birds of Kohat and Kurram Valley."
" *Bubo bengalensis.*—The Rock-horned Owl . . . . Major Magrath " writes as follows of this species :—' A resident and fairly common. An " example I shot on 13th of January, 1906, was put up in broad daylight " from a nullah in which it had just pounced on a huge bull-frog. It flew " away with its prey some distance, and was killed on the ground. The " vast flocks of *Pastor roseus* that roosted in the cantonments in August " 1905 were much harried by Owls, this species being, as far as I could " ascertain, the chief depredator.' This is the common Owl of the district."

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Records of Birds which have Bred in Captivity

By E. Hopkinson, D.S.O., M.A., M.B.

For meaning of abbreviations *vide* pages 58-59 (Vol. 1).

(Continued from page 9).

GRUIDAE.

523.—COMMON CRANE. *Grus grus.* **W.T.P.**

524.—CANADIAN CRANE. *G. canadensis.* **W.T.P.**

Hybrids.

CANADIAN CRANE × WATTLED CRANE. W.T.P.
,, ,, × MANCHURIAN CRANE. Lilford, teste Seth Smith, Field, Oct. 17, 1914.
,, ,, × WHITE-NECKED CRANE. Lilford as above.

525.—MANCHURIAN CRANE. *G. japonensis.* **W.T.P.**

Hybrids.

× Manchurian Crane (Canadian Crane).

526.—SARUS CRANE. *Antigone antigone.* **W.T.P.**

527.—AUSTRALIAN CRANE. *A. australasiana.* **W.T.P.**

528.—WHITE-NECKED CRANE. *Pseudogeranus leuchauchen.* **W.T.P.**

Abroad, Blaauw (Holland). See *Ibis*, 1908, 481.

Hybrids.

× White-necked Crane (Canadian Crane).

529.—WATTLED CRANE.

Hybrids.

× Wattled Crane (Canadian Crane).

530.—DEMOISELLE CRANE. *Anthropoides virgo.* **W.T.P.**

531.—BLACK-NECKED CROWNED CRANE *Balearica pavonina.* **W.T.P**

525—MANCHURIAN CRANE, or Japanese Crane.
527—AUSTRALIAN CRANE, The "Native Companion," in Australia.

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OTIDIDAE.

532.—LITTLE BUSTARD. *Tetrax tetrax.*
1st St. Quintin, 1915. See A.M. 1917, 15.

◆

CHARADRIIDAE.

533.—WATTLED LAPWING. *Lobivanellus lobatus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1910.

◆

534.—CAYENNE LAPWING. *Belonopterus cayennensis.*
Zoo, †Finn, *World's Birds.*

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535.—AVOCET. *Recurvirostra avocetta.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1907 (3).

◆

536.—REDSHANK. *Totanus calidris.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1907 (3).

◆

537.—RUFF. *Pavoncella pugnax.* **W.T.P.**
1st, St. Quintin, A.S. Medal, 1903. See A.M. n.s. i. 400. Also bred at Tring later (Carr); see B.N. 1915, 344.

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LARIDAE.

538.—BLACK-HEADED GULL. *Larus ridibundus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo. See reports 1903, etc.
HYBRIDS.
BLACK-HEADED GULL × SILVER GULL. W.T.P.
" " " × HERRING GULL. W.T.P.
" " " × JAMESON'S GULL. W.T.P.

◆

539.—HEMPRICH'S GULL. *L. hemprichi.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1912, the first time in the Gardens.

540.—SILVER GULL. *L. novae-hollandiae.*
Hybrids.
× Silver Gull (Black-headed Gull).

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541.—GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL. *L. marinus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1904, etc.

◆

542.—LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL. *L. fuscus.*
Hybrids.
LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL × HERRING GULL. W.T.P.

◆

543.—HERRING GULL. *L. argentatus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1904, etc.
Hybrids.
HERRING GULL × YELLOW-LEGGED HERRING GULL. W.T.P.
× Herring Gull (Black-headed Gull).
× Herring Gull (Lesser Black-backed Gull).

◆

544.—YELLOW-LEGGED HERRING GULL. *L. cachinnans.*
Hybrids.
× Yellow-legged Herring Gull (Herring Gull).

◆

545.—JAMESON'S GULL. *L. jamesoni.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1903, etc.
Hybrids.
× Jameson's Gull (Black-headed Gull).

◆

SPHENISCIDAE.

546.—BLACK-FOOTED PENGUIN. *Spheniscus demersus.* **W.T.P.**
1st Zoo, 1906; and since.

◆

RALLIDAE.

547.—PECTORAL RAIL. *Hypotaenidia philippensis.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1909, and later.

◆

548.—YPACAHA RAIL. *Aramides ypacaha.* **W.T.P.**

549.—NORTHERN WEKA RAIL. *Ocydromus earli.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo. 1912; the first time in the Gardens.
HYBRIDS.
× Northern Weka (Black Weka).

◆

550.—BLACK WEKA RAIL. *O. brachypterus.*

HYBRIDS.
BLACK WEKA × NORTHERN WEKA. Zoo, 1904.

◆

551.—CORNCRAKE. *Crex crex.* **W.T.P.**
Rattigan 1915. See B.N. 1916, 28. The article commences, " Though this species has been apparently successfully reared before in a cage..."

◆

552.—BLACK-TAILED WATER-HEN. *Microtribonyx ventralis.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1909, etc.

◆

553.—MOORHEN. *Gallinula chloropus.* **W.T.P.**

◆

554.—GREEN-BACKED PURPLE GALLINULE. *Porphyrio porphyrio.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1913. First time in the Gardens.

◆

[555.—JAVAN PURPLE GALLINULE. *P. calvus.*
Three bred in the Zoo, 1913, died when nearly adult.]

◆

556.—BLACK-BACKED PURPLE GALLINULE. *P. melanonotus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1910, etc.

To be continued.

◆

Notes on some Hybrids bred in France.

BY J. DELACOUR.

Perhaps a few words on some of the hybrids that I had in my possession at Villers-Bretonneux before the war, will not be uninteresting to the readers of BIRD NOTES, who already have had so many interesting accounts on the hybrids bred in Great Britain.

Among the waterfowl, I shall mention a fine pair of Upland × Egyptian Geese (*Chloephaga magellanica* ♂ × *Chlenalopex aegyptiacus* ♀) hybrids. A dozen of these hybrids were reared in Pas-de-Calais by M. d' Hebard de St. Sulpice, who kindly presented me with a pair of them. All these hybrids are alike; the general colouration being buff, with grey feathers on the back, ruddy head, the dark patch of the Egyptian Goose on the breast; bill black; feet yellow. The shape and size were about those of a female Upland Goose. The call notes remind me of those of the Upland Goose.

Another nice hybrid was Chiloe Wigeon × Summer Duck (*Mareca chiloensis* × *Aex sponsa*). This bird, a drake, was exactly intermediate between his two parents in shape and colour; he used to keep on the pond with the Summer Ducks.

I also bred hybrids between Chiloe Wigeon × Call Duck which were not very different to this last variety; they mated with Call Ducks, but the eggs were infertile.

I bred many hybrid pheasants: Golden × Common (very pretty); Soemering's × Reeve's; Mikado × Elliott's; Mikado-Elliott's × Reeve's; etc. They are all very handsome, but of little interest from the avicultural point of view.

Two South American Pigeons, *Columba speciosa* ♂ and *C. maculosa* ♀, reared three or four broods of hybrids every season for four years. The young birds resembled their male parent in shape, and are dark brown, with a few fawn spots on the neck; the wings and tail are greyer. Three of them are still alive in the Jardin des Plantes of the Museum of Natural History in Paris.

I never cared to breed hybrid Waxbills, Weavers, etc. but I once had a lovely cross between *Foudia madagascariensis* ♂ and *Hyphantornis vitellinus* ♀. The young cock hybrid, when two years old, developed a lovely orange-creamy colour; he was exactly like *F. madagascariensis* in shape and size; the hen was very similar to a hen of the latter species.

May I add, though this does not refer to hybrids, that my greatest success at Villers-Bretonneux during the ten years that I kept birds there, was the breeding of Buffon's Touraco to the second generation (I had three breeding pairs, two of which were born in my aviaries, when my collection was destroyed in the war in 1918), and that of the Red-crowned Fruit Pigeon (*Alectroenas pulcherima*), which, I think, is the first Fruit-Pigeon to have been reared in captivity in Europe.

◆

The Orange-cheeked Waxbill.

(*Sporaeginthus melpodus*).

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

In normal times as plentiful and cheap as the general run of freely imported species, in fact. I have bought many at 3/6 to 5/- per pair. Now the case is very different, but already a fair number of " small ornamental finches " from Africa are coming to hand, and prices are already becoming reasonable.

This is a charming waxbill, perhaps not as showy as some, nevertheless, as beautiful as any. It has been known to aviculture for a long period, yet there are only two or three records of successfully rearing of young in Great Britain. I kept the species on and off myself for about thirty years before breeding luck came my way, and this as late as the summer of 1912.

They are ideal birds either for cage or the mixed aviary, and as Miss R. Alderson has succeeded in rearing young in a cage there is no reason why others should not be similarly successful.

While some may consider a description of its plumage superfluous, yet, as we have " the beginner " with us always I am giving same.

Adult male: The general colouration is a beautiful, soft-blending of greys and browns, variegated with bright orange ear-patches, and bright red rump and upper tail-coverts. The beak is waxy-red; legs and feet brownish flesh-colour.

Female: The distinctions are not great, and this is aggravated by the variation in intensity of colouration common to all species; so that securing a true pair is not always an easy matter. If from a crowd of adults a large and brightly coloured specimen be picked out, and then a smaller and less intensely coloured specimen, of course always supposing both are adult birds, there is a reasonable prospect of securing male and female; still errors of judgment occur and these are not by any means always fraudulent. Thus the female may be described as being slightly smaller than the male, and her ear-patches, rump and upper tail-coverts of a slightly less intense hue. In my breeding pair the male had larger and brighter coloured ear-patches, and his rump and upper tail-coverts were a sort of orange-crimson (but I think this latter feature was due to him being an aviary moulted specimen), and he also was perceptably larger than his mate.

In the Aviary: While restless and fidgety in confined quarters, I have found it to be fairly bold and vivacious among a mixed crowd in a roomy, naturally-planted aviary. I certainly know of no more charming sight than to see a pair, or more, of these wee birds flitting to and fro, butterfly-like, amid the herbage and bushes in a large natural aviary. So long as there is an abundance of seeding grass and weeds growing in the aviary they visit the seed-hoppers but seldom, and the beauty and gracefulness of their movements, when clinging in every conceivable position, to a slender panicle of seed, which sways and bends beneath even their slight weight, is beyond words. Their beauty is undeniable, and they always charm and interest however well acquainted one is with them.

Nesting: Under this heading I shall give the details of my own nesting success, for it was as pleasureable to me, if not more so, than the breeding of other and rarer species had been . The details I can give are not numerous, for they were only one pair in a large wilderness-aviary containing a crowd of over 100 hardbills and softbills.

The male was in the aviary the previous year and had wintered out of doors; the female was a new acquisition, a gift from Dr. Hopkinson with other birds, part of one of his personally imported consignments. I had been very busy that summer, and away from home many of its week ends. Up to the middle of July no attempts at nesting were observed; about July 15th I noticed them attempting to nest in a rambler rose about 2 feet above the ground; apparently they were interfered with by some of the other birds, and the nest was never completed. This rose had a number of long laterals, their tips resting upon the ground and forming a more or less dense thicket with the tall grass beneath it, and the Orange-cheeks were later observed spending most of their time therein, but I concluded the attraction was blight and grass seed. One morning in August (6th, 1912) I was in the aviary and thought the rose to be too straggling, and began to prune and tie up, when out flew the Orange-cheeks, and a search revealed a spherical nest, about 6 inches in diameter, at the foot of a tussock of grass, which was some 12 inches high and bent over almost to the ground, similar to a fountain spray and almost obscuring the nest; it is a marvel it was not trodden upon during the operation of tying up the rose. So cunningly was it constructed and camouflaged that it was only after a very close search and examination and some disturbance of the growing grass, that the entrance hole was discovered, and but for the flying out of the birds it would not have been; the entrance hole was nearer the ground than the top of the nest, but the passage from it sloped upwards, the base of the nest actually resting upon the ground. The nest was a perfect sphere, very closely woven, outwardly of coarse grasses and hay, lined internally with fine hay, dandelion down, and feathers. The shell of the nest was nearly one inch thick, and judging by the appearance of the birds and the feel of the interior of the nest, after the young had flown, I conclude that even the abnormal rains of the month had failed to penetrate it, for though the base of the nest was on the ground, its interior was quite dry.

It is difficult to state with exactness what the young birds were reared on, owing to the variety of feeding stuffs required by such a mixed series—from a thrush to a sugar-bird but from personal observation I am able to deduce that it was mainly upon millet, fresh grass and weed seeds and all the midges, etc., the parent birds could capture, together with what few mealworms they were able to snatch up among the general crowd.

I first heard the young calling for food on August 20th and on September 3rd and 4th, all of them left the nest. These three young birds, though fed by their parents for twelve days after their exit from the nest, were seen to crack seed on the fourth day.

The juvenile plumage was very smilar to that of the adult, but a little duller and greyer, the orange cheek-patches being small and somewhat indistinct; upper tail-coverts dull red; beak black; legs and feet grey.

Very shortly after leaving the nest their beaks began to change, cheek-patches became slowly brighter, and the red on the rump and upper tail-coverts more intense red; and within six weeks of their leaving the nest they could be scarcely distinguished from their parents; they had assumed almost the full brilliance of the adult, though their beaks had not reached full brilliance, and their tails still a little shorter than those of adults This process preceded the moult and took place without the shedding of a feather.

These young birds survived the following winter, and in the spring were sold with other surplus stock. The above instance has been my only success with this species, my whole attention being given up to breeding softbills during this and the years preceding the war.

◆

Obituary.

We much regret to have to announce the death—killed in action—of our member, Lieut. F. Dawson-Smith. The following account has been sent us by his sorrowing mother, and we are publishing, same as sent.—

KILLED IN ACTION.

DAWSON-SMITH.—On January 11th, in Northern Jubaland during a native mutiny, Lieut. Frank Dawson-Smith, King's African Rifles, the dearly-loved and only son of the Rev. C. and Mrs. Dawson-Smith, Nash Rectory, Stony-Stratford, Bucks.

"We thank our God upon every remembrance of him."

The above appeared in *The Times* obituary column. My son enlisted at the beginning, and won his way, step by step, from the ranks in the York and Lancaster Regiment, where he served with great distinction. He then accepted a commission in the Oxford and Bucks. Light Infantry. He went through the thickest of the fighting in France, always under fire, and was wounded in the great attack at Passchaendale on August 22nd, 1918. The following year he was transferred to the King's African Rifles, and went out to East Africa in July, 1918. He was again wounded in German East Africa a fortnight before the Germans surrendered. In July 1919 he was sent up to Northern Jubaland on the Abyssinian Frontier, where he arrived in October, after many perilous adventures. He was officer in charge of the expedition, and sole British Military Representative and Governor of a district of 4,000 square miles. And now a cable, brief and sword-like, informs us he was killed in a native mutiny. So ends a splendid and glorious career. He was 'mentioned' for his courage, initiative and resource. He was a great sportsman and athlete, and loved nature in all its moods. He had hosts of friends who knew him for 'a white man in every sense of the word,' and his lovable and attractive personality won him universal love and esteem. In his last letter he spoke of being engaged on an article for BIRD NOTES. If it should arrive in the months to come I will write it out and send to you, as his last contribution to your pages.—R.I.P."

MRS. DAWSON-SMITH.

Those who knew Lieut. Dawson-Smith will realise that the above does not overstate his sunny yet studious and sport-loving nature. The readers of BIRD NOTES will be acquainted with him by his frequent, interesting and practical contributions to the Club Journal, and his early demise is a great loss to the Club, of which he was an enthusiastic supporter. The sincere and profound sympathy of all our members will be with his sorrowing family in this hour of trial.—W.T.P.

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Editorial.

A CORRECTION: In our December issue, led astray by information sent, which, owing to extreme pressure we published without confirming same, we stated in the article on Red-billed Toucan, that this bird was one of a number of rare species collected and brought over for Lord Tavistock, and was placed by him on deposit at the London Zoo. This was incorrect. This species was *purchased by the London Zoological Society, on their arrival from Brazil.*

A RARE PARROT *(Dasyptilus pesqueti)*.—Opposite are two photo-reproductions of this rare species, collected and privately imported for the Marquis of Tavistock, together with many other rare parrots, parrakeets, and lories. At a later date we hope our member will pen us notes of this and the other species.

The following description, habitat, etc., are reprinted from the British Mus. Cat., Vol. XX., p. 386.

" *Adult.* Black, the feathers of the breast edged with brownish " grey; abdomen, sides, upper and under tail-coverts, median, upper " wing-coverts ,the outer web of the secondaries ,and under wing-coverts " red; forehead, sides of the head, and throat nearly naked, with a few " hair-like feathers; black feathers of the pileum and of the nape narrow, " pointed; a red band on each side of the occiput ;tail black; bill and feet " black; iris maroon. Total length from 20 to 21 inches, wing 1.2, tail " 7.5, bill 0.65, tarsus 1."

" *Young.* Besides being smaller, has the red colour less bright and " less extended on the wings."

" *Habitat.* New Guinea."

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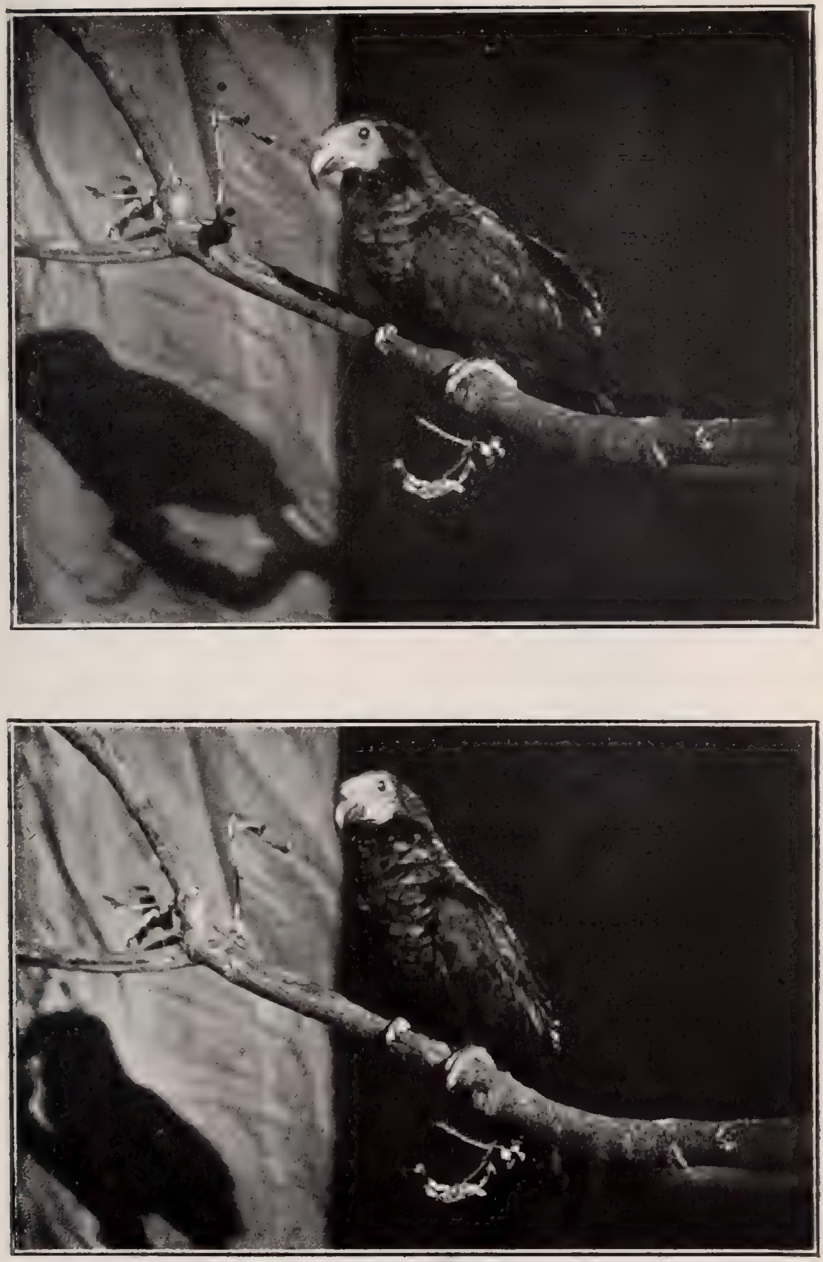
Book Notices and Reviews.

A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK OF BRITISH BIRDS: By various authors, edited by H. F. Witherby, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., with numerous half-tone and coloured illustrations. In 18 parts price 4s. each. London: Witherby and Co., 326, High Holborn, W.C. 1.

PART VI. This part is occupied with the continuation of the Family *MUSCICAPIDÆ*, and the following genera are



Dasyptilus pesqueti.

dealt with: *Acrocephalus*, *Hypolais*, *Sylvia*, *Agrobates*, and *Turdus*.

There are two very fine half-tone plates, the first figuring Whitethroat, Lesser Whitethroat, Rüpell's Warbler, Sardinian Warbler, Subalpine Warbler, and Dartford Warbler; the other figures: White's Thrush, Fieldfare, British Song Thrush Hebridean Song Thrush and Rock Thrush. There are also a goodly number of text figures of heads, wings, etc., illustrating distinctive features of the respective species.

We reprint the following extracts:

REED WARBLER (*Acrocephalus s. scirpaceus* [Herin]).

" FIELD-CHARACTERS. Seldom leaves cover of reed-beds, or osier- " beds and riverside bushes, which to a lesser extent constitute its haunts, " among which it moves about with restless activity. Uniform brown " upper-parts tinged with chestnut, nearly white under-parts, obscure pale " eye-stripe render it almost indistinguishable in the field from the rarer and " more local Marsh-Warbler, which, however, frequents swampy thickets " of meadowsweet and rank herbage rather than reed-beds. Song, " uttered by day and night, is a babbling chatter ' churra, churra, churra,' " followed by a variety of rapid notes, far less melodious and imitative than " the song of Marsh-Warbler, and lacking notes of Sedge-Warbler. Call-note " ' turr.' Alarm-note a low croak."

" BREEDING HABITS. Generally breeds in reeds on edge of stream " or in osiers, but occasionally in hedges or bushes at considerable distance " from water. Also in rank marsh vegetation, nettles, willow-herb, etc. " *Nest*.—Cylindrical in shape, with deep cup, built on to and around reeds " or branches, of grasses, *Confervæ*, reed flowers, etc., lined variously " with grasses and feathers, wool, hair, reed-tops, etc. *Eggs*.—Normally " 4, occasionally 5, very rarely 6, greenish-white, blotched and marbled to " varying degree with dark olive and ashy-grey. Varieties with almost " white ground, boldly spotted, also with dark zone or brown caps recorded. " Average of 100 British eggs 18.3 x 13.6 mm. *Breeding-Season*.— " Variable, most birds lay in June, but a few in latter half of May. " Second brood apparently sometimes reared, as eggs have been taken in " August."

This part is brought up to the date of November 30th, 1919. With each part of this practical work, its comprehensive character is confirmed; it is a *sine qua non* to all students and lovers of British birds.

PASTIMES FOR THE NATURE LOVER: By S. C. Johnson D.Sc., F.R.E.S., illustrated. LONDON: Holden and Hardingham Ltd., 12 York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C., 2. 1s. net.

A copy of this interesting booklet has been sent us for review, and we have perused it with much interest. It runs into 136 pages, and there are many diagrams in the text. There are chapters on:

Attracting Wild Birds to the Garden.
Feeding Wild Birds in Winter.
Pond Pets and how to keep them.
Freshwater Fish.
A Home for the Live Treasures of the Sea-shore.
Drying and Preserving Wild Flowers.
A Collection of Leaves.
Skeletonizing Leaves.
Compiling a Nature Diary.
A Little Museum of Shells.
Collecting and Preserving Sea Shore Life.
Rearing Butterflies and Moths.
Butterflies for the Cabinet.
Rearing Silkworms.
A Collection of Birds' Eggs.
Nature Photography.
Nature Photography without a Camera.
Sundrawn Pictures on Apples and Pears.
Gathering Wild Flowers.
Reptiles at Pets.

Though the scope of this booklet is large, it is yet comprehensive, and its concise and lucid information ample to instruct the nature student and collector in intelligently pursuing his, or her, delightful and healthful pursuit or hobby, enabling them to understandingly observe, and also collect, in an inexpensive and yet scientific manner. It is of handy size for the pocket.

In the chapter *Attracting Birds to the Garden*, there are several diagrams of nests, admirably adapted for the purpose and equally useful for the aviary. In the chapter *Feeding Wild Birds in Winter*, there are several ingenious diagrams of food-vessels, which also would be equally useful in the aviary.

We cordially commend this little booklet, not merely as excellent shillingsworth but as an intelligent companion at any season, when enjoying the Open Air, or in any district. It will increase their interest and pleasure in Wild Nature's ways when taking their walks abroad.

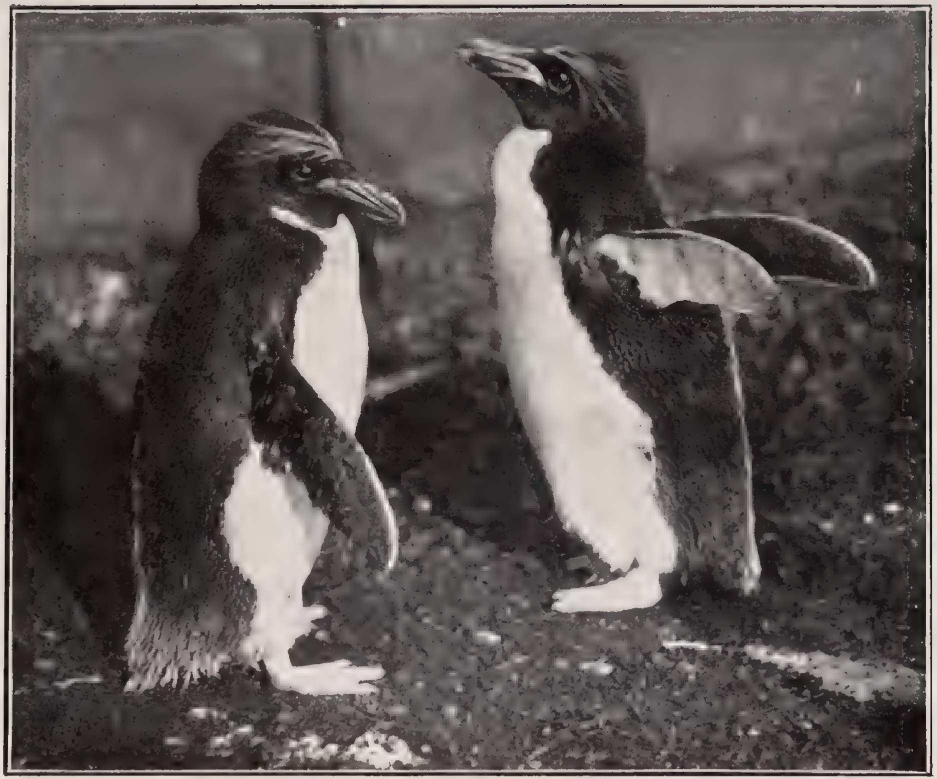


Photo D. Seth-Smith, F.Z.S.

Golden-Crowned Penguins.

All Rights Reserved. March, 1920.

BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

The Golden-Crowned Penguin.

(Catarrhactes chrysolophus)

By W. T. Page, F.Z.S., etc.

I recently had an opportunity of paying a rather hurried visit to the London Zoo, and made the acquaintance of this new (to Great Britain), beautiful and interesting penguin.

At my request Mr. D. Seth Smith, F.Z.S. (Curator of birds) kindly consented to send me a photo of them for reproduction in Bird Notes. A glance at this will show this rare species, new to Zoo collections, to be of typical form and deportment to the Black-footed Penguin *(Spheniscus demersus)* but that it lacks entirely the white facial markings of the latter species; apparently, that is judging from my short observation of it, it is of a more lively disposition than *S. demersus*, two of which shared the same enclosure.

I was accompanied by our member Capt. J. S. Reeve and we were much interested as we stood outside the fence of the enclosure, laid out with pond, rockwork, etc., by their tameness and liveliness—they paraded up and down for our inspection with wings outspread like two arms, as if performing a balancing feat, standing quite placidly to have their plumage stroked and the skin underneath tickled, apparently quite enjoying same, and they were the pair, among the birds, which appealed to me most during the visit.

Turning up various books, when I got home, gleaning therefrom the following facts:—

This species is less common in its native habitat than the

photo E. O. Page.
Black-footed Penguin and Young.

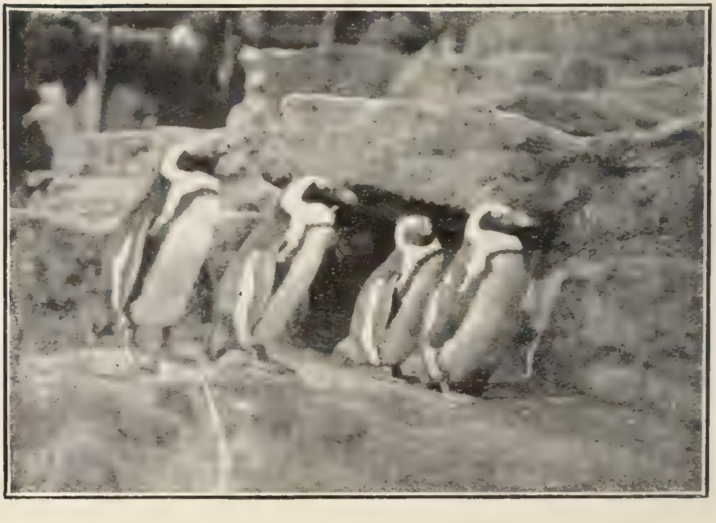


photo E. O. Page.
Black-footed Penguin.

other known species, for instance while a somewhat similar species *C. chrysocome* appears in huge numbers—On the Falkland Islands, where the two species are found together, Capt. Abbot observed only fifteen of *C. chrysolophus* among many thousands of *C. chrysocome*, and apparently the former is never common.

Range. Falkland Islands, South Georgia, Prince Edward Island, Kerguelen, and Herd Island.

Description: Of about the same size as the common Black-footed Penguin, but of slighter build. Its principal features are its red bill and conspicuous V-shaped crest of golden-yellow and black plumes; above it is brownish-black with a bluish sheen (in some lights greenish), beneath it is chalk-white. The colour pattern and arrangement of the crest are well shown in our illustration.

The species is, I fear, not likely to be privately procurable at present, but a pair would be striking objects at liberty about a garden, with a small rockery arranged for their benefit, and a large vessel of water sunk into the ground; also a shelter of some kind to shut them away from predatory creatures at night.

The photos of Black-footed Penguins, taken at the London Zoo, are inserted for comparison purposes only. One of these represents a pleasing episode, viz: parent and young. Several broods of this species *(S. demersus)* have been successfully reared at the Zoo.

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Bessie comes of Age.

By the Rev. G. H. Raynor, M.A.

I believe there are many of our members, and of bird-lovers in general, who are deterred from keeping parrots because of the wide-spread belief that these birds are not easily catered for and are therefore very apt to die. Such certainly was my impression twenty-one years ago when I saw in the *Exchange and Mart* an advertisement from Mr. Fulljames that he was selling off his Foreign Birds. On receiving a price-list from the vendor I spent much time in contemplating the *names* of some that fascinated me—for I did not then possess a book on parrots. After much hesitation I decided to invest £3 in a Meyer's Parrot, which was described as "very rare." This bird, I rejoice to say, has not in any way belied her description, for she has only once been beaten at the Crystal Palace since she obtained premier honours there at the Jubilee Show in 1909. At every show from then till 1914 she was placed first in the Parrot Class except on one occasion when she had to lower her colours to Mr. Ezra's Hawk-headed Parrot, which is, I believe—if it is now alive—in India.

Poeocephalus meyeri is a small bird, not much larger than a blackbird, but much more thick set. It has the head, neck, mantle wings and tail brown with olive shading, often with a broad crescentic yellow band across the crown. The back, rump, upper tail-coverts, and under parts are bluish-green, of a very fascinating tint. Bright yellow decorates the bend and edge of the wings, the under wing-coverts and the thighs. It is a common bird in the Transvaal, where it is often kept as a pet and becomes exceedingly tame. It is perhaps the most widely distributed and the commonest of South African Parrots, occurring even so far West as Senegal. "Bessie"—for so my representative was named, when I received her—shows very few signs of old age, but she takes a long time, in fact several months, getting through her moult. She is very tame and affectionate with myself, and loves to come out of her cage and nestle on my shoulder, but she is not over fond of visitors. Her residence consists of a large square wire cage, 2½ feet × 1½ feet broad, such as one could buy for twenty-five shillings in those far-off happy pre-war days. I have removed the metal platform, so that Bessie can grovel in the sanded bottom to her heart's content. She has fresh sand every day, and, of course, fresh water, and lives in a fireless room, being carefully kept out of all draughts; for this, I need hardly say, is a most important point. When the weather is calm and sunny she goes out of doors for several hours a day. Her food is very simple, consisting of sunflower, hemp, canary seed and here and there a capsicum. Maize and peanuts she steadily refuses, but a lump of sugar, a little piece of bun or pastry she adores, and she is very keen on walnuts and Brazils. Like all parrots, she appreciates a bit of wood, dry or green, to bite and play with, and she will eat a grape or a small portion of a pear or apple, but what she loves best is a seedhead, green or ripe, of the garden Marigold *(Calendula officinalis)*. Many Meyer's parrots have been imported of late years, but they seem to disappear from the scene, or, at any rate, one rarely hears of a specimen that has lived for many years in England. The reason I believe to be that they are too much cosseted, kept in a hot atmosphere and made to sleep in boxes. Get a strong, well-feathered bird to begin with and treat it rationally and I believe it will prove to be not inferior to my well-loved friend in beauty hardihood and age.

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Records of Birds which have Bred in Captivity

By E. Hopkinson, D.S.O., M.A., M.B.

For meaning of abbreviations *vide* pages 58-59 (Vol. 1).

(*Continued from page 45*).

GAME BIRDS.

TETRAONIDAE.

557.—RED GROUSE. *Lagopus scoticus.*

I believe that young have been bred in captivity, but cannot find a record (E.H.).

Hybrids.

× Red Grouse (Black Grouse).

× Red Grouse (Pheasant).

◆

558.—WILLOW GROUSE. *L. lagopus.* **W.T.P.**

Zoo, 1909.

Hybrids.

* WILLOW GROUSE × CANADIAN GROUSE.

Vale. " in evidence at the S.K. Museum." †Vale.

In the P.Z.S. 1886 p. 224, are two coloured plates of this cross, but wild bred.

× Willow Grouse (Black Grouse).

◆

559.—PTARMIGAN. *L. albus.*

Hybrids.

× Ptarmigan (Black Grouse).

560.—BLACK GROUSE. *Lyrurus tetrix.*

Hybrids.

* BLACK GROUSE × WILLOW GROUSE. Vale, "in evidence at the S.K. Museum."
* ,, ,, × RED GROUSE. Vale.
,, ,, × PTARMIGAN. Vale.
,, ,, × CAPERCAILZIE. Vale.
,, ,, × PHEASANT. Vale; also †Bartlett.
,, ,, × DOMESTIC FOWL. Vale.
× Black Grouse (Capercailzie).
× Black Grouse (Pheasant).

* N.B.—Nearly all these Grouse hybrids must be wild-bred ones, and therefore should not appear in this list. I have, however, included them pro tem., as there is a possibility that some of the records refer to captive birds, and also to call attention to these crosses and the records of which need amplification.

561.—CAPERCAILZIE. *Tetrao urogallus.*

Hybrids.

CAPERCAILZIE × BLACK GROUSE.
†Bartlett: *Wild Animals in Captivity*, p. 218.
× Capercailzie (Black Grouse).

562.—CANADA GROUSE. *Canachites canadensis.*

Hybrids.

× Canada Grouse (Willow Grouse).

563.—PRIARIE CHICKEN. *Tympanuchus americanus.*

Abroad, in America in 1912 under a hen.
See A.M. 1913, 371.

564.—RUFFED GROUSE. *Bonasa umbellus.*

Abroad. Has been reared from collected eggs in America. See B.N. iv. 206

PHASIANIDAE.

565.—RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE. *Caccabis rufa.* **W.T.P.**

Hybrids.

× Red-legged Partridge (Partridge).

566.—GREEK PARTRIDGE. *C. saxatilis.*
Zoo, 5 recorded in the 1905 Report.

567.—BARBARY PARTRIDGE. *C. petrosa.* **W.T.P.**

568.—HEY'S SEESEE PARTRIDGE. *Ammoperdix heyi.* **W.T.P.**
1st Trevor Battye, 1908. See A.M. n.s. iii. 263.

569.—BLACK FRANCOLIN. *Francolinus francolinus.* **W.T.P.**
1st Barnby Smith, 1908. A.S. Medal. See A.M. (2) vi. 354.

570.—GRAY'S BARE-THROATED FRANCOLIN. *Pternistes leucoscepus.* **W.T.P.**
1st Ingram, 1905. A.S. Medal. See A.M. (2) iii. 352.

571.—PARTRIDGE. *Perdix perdix.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1908, etc.
HYBRIDS.
PARTRIDGE × RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE. †Vale.

572.—JUNGLE BUSH-QUAIL. *Perdicula asiatica.*
Abroad. 1st von Thein. †Russ.

573.—ARGOONDAH BUSH-QUAIL. *P. argoondah.* **W.T.P.**
1st Teschemaker, F.B.C. Medal, 1910. See B.N. 1910, 363, 315.
Abroad. 1st Russ †Russ.

574.—ROULROUL. *Rollulus roulroul.* **W.T.P.**

The only record I so far know is an incomplete one. A.M. 1908, 38 Ingram, "one young survived 3 weeks." Unless therefore W.T.P. indicates another record, this entry should appear within square brackets. (E.H.)

575.—RAIN QUAIL. *Coturnix coromandelica.* **W.T.P.**
1st Seth Smith, 1903. A.S. Medal. See A.M. n.s. i. 336.
HYBRIDS.
RAIN QUAIL × STUBBLE QUAIL. W.T.P. Zoo, 1909.
× Rain Quail (Stubble Quail).

576.—HARLEQUIN QUAIL. *C. delagorguei.* **W.T.P.**
Seth Smith, 1906, A.M. 1907, 28.

577.—STUBBLE QUAIL. *C. pectoralis.* **W.T.P.**
Seth Smith, 1906. See A.M. 1907, 29.
HYBRIDS.
STUBBLE QUAIL × RAIN QUAIL. W.T.P.
× Stubble Quail (Rain Quail).

578.—AUSTRALIAN SWAMP-QUAIL. *Synoecus australis.* **W.T.P.**
Seth Smith. A.S. Medal, 1905. See A.M. n.s. iii. 363.
In London Zoo, /Russ.

579.—PAINTED QUAIL. *Excalfactoria chinensis.* **W.T.P.**
1st Meade Waldo, 1898. A.S. Medal. See A.M. v. 1.
Abroad. 1st Derin, †Russ.

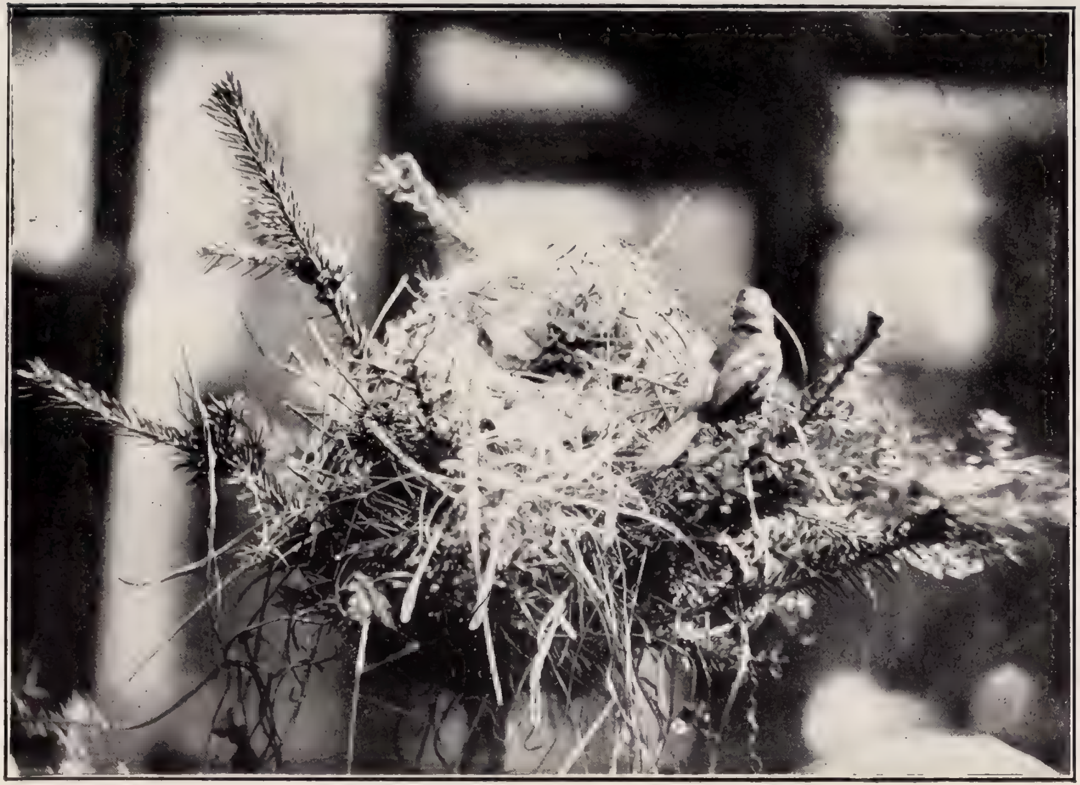
580.—ISLAND PAINTED QUAIL. *E. lineata.* **W.T.P.**

581.—HORNED TRAGOPAN. *Tragopan satyra.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1912.
HYBRIDS.
HORNED TRAGOPAN × TEMMINCK'S TRAGOPAN.
W.T.P. Zoo, 1910, 1913.
.. .. × CABOT'S TRAGOPAN. W.T.P.

582.—TEMMINCK'S TRAGOPAN. *T. temmincki.* **W.T.P.**
HYBRIDS.
× Temminck's Tragopan (Horned Tragopan).

583.—CABOT'S TRAGOPAN. *T. caboti.* **W.T.P.**
HYBRIDS.
× Cabot's Tragopan (Horned Tragopan).

584.—MONAL. *Lophophorus impeyanus.*
HYBRIDS.
MONAL × SILVER PHEASANT. W.T.P.



Black Seedfinch Nest Building.

585.—RUFOUS-TAILED PHEASANT. *Acomus erythrophthalmus.*

Hybrids.

RUFOUS-TAILED PHEASANT × BLACK-BACKED KALIJ.

In evidence at the S.K. Museum, †Vale.

(? wild or in captivity, for the same applies to this and other game-bird hybrids, as in the note under Grouse hybrids, E.H.).

586.—BORNEAN FIREBACK PHEASANT. *Lophura nobilis.*

Zoo, 1912. See report, 1913. " The first time in the Gardens; one was killed by rats and the other lived till nearly adult."

587.—WHITE-CRESTED KALIJ-PHEASANT. *Gennaeus albicristatus.* **W.T.P.**

Hybrids.

× White-crested Kalij (Black-breasted Kalij).
× White-crested Kalij (Burmese Silver Pheasant).
× White-crested Kalij (Silver Pheasant).

588.—BLACK-BACKED KALIJ. *G. melanonotus.*

Zoo, 1910. The first time in the Gardens.

Hybrids.

BLACK-BACKED KALIJ × WHITE-CRESTED KALIJ.

†Bartlett. " Offspring fertile " †Bartlett.

BLACK-BACKED KALIJ × BLACK-BREASTED KALIJ. †Bartlett.

× Black-backed Kalij (Rufous-tailed Pheasant).
× Black-backed Kalij (Pheasant).
× Black-backed Kalij (Silver Pheasant).
× Black-backed Kalij (Burmese Silver Pheasant).

Bartlett = The list in *Wild Animals in Captivity* by A. D. Bartlett, 1898.

To be Continued.

The Endurance of Birds.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

(Continued from page 245 last volume).

St. Helena Seedeater *(Serinus flaviventris)*: This is a very beautiful serin, larger and more brilliantly coloured than the well known Green Singing-finch, which, however, it greatly resembles in the markings and colour arrangement of its plumage.

It is a hardy species, and a free breeder, once a breeding pair is secured. It crosses readily with other serins and the domestic canary; the hybrids from the latter cross are very handsome and also sweet songsters.

Serins are combative with each other, whether of their own or other species, so best results are secured when only one species of serin is kept in the same enclosure, containing a mixed series of finches.

Adult male.—General colouration of upper surface and tail green, with black shaft-streaks to most of the feathers; rump dull yellow; flights edged with yellow; lores green; upper and lower eye-streaks, and entire under-surface rich golden-yellow; beak light horn-colour; legs and feet dusky. Total length 5½ inches.

Adult female.—Much duller in colour, the plumage above having a browninsh hue, more heavily streaked with black, and no yellow markings. Beneath she is greyish-white, only slightly tinged with yellow, regularly streaked with greyish brown on the breast, sides of body, and under tail-coverts Total length 5 inches.

A very beautiful bird, a fine songster, and a most attractive species for the mixed aviary. It has reared young in my aviaries on two occasions. The young were reared without difficulty, the parent birds had access to insectile mixture. seed, ample greenfood and were very keen on mealworms when these were thrown in; but the young were mainly reared on seed and greenfood; some insects were captured (flies, etc.) in the aviary, as well as a few mealworms picked up, but these were swallowed and not immediately fed to the young. The parent birds regurgitated the contents of their crops into the gaping mouths of their young.

SULPHURY SEEDEATER *(S. sulphuratus)*: Another very beautiful serin, but not of such graceful form as *flaviventris.* It is about the size and contour of the English Greenfinch. It is less common on the market than other serins, but not rare like the exquisite Black-faced Serin.

Adult male.—The general colouration is yellowish-green, with patches of bright yellow on the lower back, chin, and wing-covert margins; with eye-streaks, throat and abdomen of brilliant golden-yellow; beak yellowish, upper mandible somewhat dusky; legs and feet dusky. Total length 6 inches.

Adult female.—Similar to the male, but slightly duller, and the golden-yellow areas less intense and ill defined.

This species was bred by our member W. Shore Baily in 1914, and an account of this success appeared in *Bird Notes* page 264, of that year, from which I extract the following details:—

> "On May 20th the nest contained four pear-shaped eggs, of a greenish-white colour, without any markings whatever. Incubation lasted fourteen days, and the hen alone incubated."
>
> "On June 13th two chicks were hatched, and thirteen days later they left the nest and were quite strong on the wing."
>
> "The juvenile plumage was grey,tinged with green on flights and tail, and striated with brown on the breast and back."

Mr. W. E. Teschemaker was credited with successfully breeding this species in 1909, but his supposed pair were not of the same species, viz: *S. sulphuratus* ♂ and *S. albigularis* ♀. As this species has been successfully crossed with the canary, St. Helena Seedeater, Siskin and the White-throated Serin, if pairs were obtained it should prove a free breeder. Perhaps Mr. Shore Baily will inform us if he kept his pair and if so, with what breeding success during later seasons.

It is hardy and enduring and also pugnacious, at least I have found the odd males I have possessed so.

The Cape Canary *(S. canicollis)*, also known as the Grey-necked Serin; it is a very handsome species, but has the serin-character of quarrelsomeness, especially with other serins, and birds of similar colouration to itself.

It has not so far shown itself a free breeder in captivity, manily, perhaps, because comparatively few have possessed it in true pairs. It has been crossed with the domestic canary, and the resulting hybrids have been sweet songsters. Mr. W. E. Teschemaker has had nests built in his aviary, of which a photo-reproduction has appeared more than once in Bird Notes.

Its habits and characteristics are similar to those of the other serins described in this paper; as also is its food and general treatment, so these need not be repeated.

YELLOW-RUMPED SERIN *(S. angolensis).* As there is an article on this species in this vol. (page 10) I need do no more than refer my readers thereto.

THE SERIN FINCH *(S. canarius serinus).* Though classed as a British species it is a mere vagrant wanderer to our shores Some twenty specimens are recorded from the Eastern and Southern counties, one at Edinburgh and two at Dublin.

Range: It and allied races or forms range over North-West Africa and Southern Europe, extending into France, Switzerland, Germany and Holland. It is represented in the Canaries and Madeira by the Wild Canary *(S. c. canarius).*

It has been bred in captivity, and has been crossed with the domestic canary, etc.

The winter plumage is greenish, thickly streaked with blackish-brown and darker green; hind-neck, forehead, mantle, scapulars, back, and centre of breast various shades of yellow, more or less obscured by greenish-grey fringes; centre of abdomen whitish-buff; sides and flanks buff. In summer by abrasion the yellow areas are exposed and the bird appears much brighter in colour.

The female is similar to the male, but has much less yellow in her plumage, and much more thickly striated, and the striations somewhat browner than in the male.

Beak dark horn-colour, lower mandible paler; iris intense blackish-brown; legs and feet brown.

Most of the Serins can safely be wintered out of doors, and all thrive well in captivity on similar food and treatment.

To be continued.

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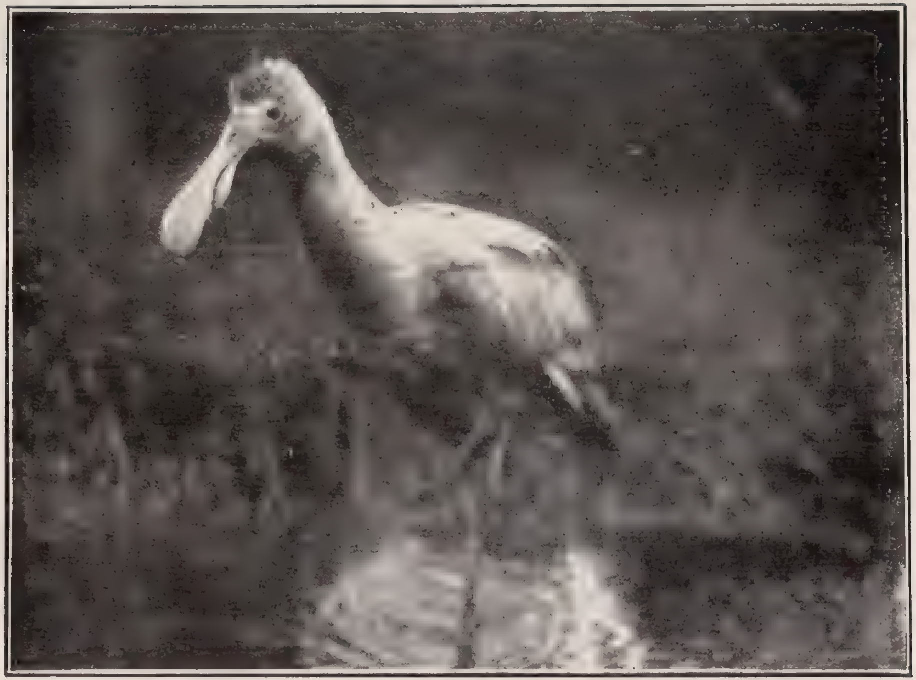

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Roseate Spoonbill.

The Roseate Spoonbill.

(Ajaia ajaya)

By W. Shore Baily.

Those of our readers who have read that little book "The Home Life of a Spoonbill," and have enjoyed the splendid photographs contained therein, will hardly consider these few notes worthy of their attention, but our esteemed Editor is asking for copy, and I think that it really is a little too much to expect from him, that, besides editing the magazine, he should provide the bulk of the reading matter as well. I hope that some of our members will take this hint, as there are many of them I am sure who could entertain us with their reminiscences.

The bird about which I am writing differs materially from our English Spoonbill. It is a native of Central and South America, and, I believe, it occasionally strays into the U.S.A., especially into the S.E. States; but I never met it on the Pacific side. The bird known on that coast as the Spoonbill is the Shoveller Duck. The adult male Spoonbill is very handsome, having the upper parts of the body and wings roseate-pink, with a patch of scarlet on neck and shoulders; tail buff; rest of the body white. Young birds are at first creamy-white, with the shafts of the feathers pinkish. The English Spoonbill is snowy white, with a considerable crest of feathers at the back of the head; it is also a slightly larger bird.

My "Spoony" is a young one, and when it came to me it was in a terribly dilapidated condition. In the first place its lower mandible was nearly an inch shorter than the upper one, and in the second place one of its wings had been broken close to the body, and, although the fracture was mended, the wing drooped badly, and the undamaged wing also hung down in sympathy. The weather at the time it reached me was very bad, and, as the bird's pinions dragged in the wet grass and mud whenever it was let out for exercise, they got frost bitten, and mortification soon set in. Amputation was the only remedy. The operation was most successful, and the bird quickly picked up in health, and the wings soon healed. Far from resenting my cruelty, the bird became extremely tame, and would soon follow me everywhere, taking little notice of my big retriever dog. I may mention here that one of the pinions, when removed, weighed over half a pound, whereas an ounce would have been about the correct weight.

The malformation of its bill causes it some trouble with its food. I give it biscuit meal in a deep jam jar, and this it negotiates without difficulty; but its meat, which is placed on the ground, is quite another matter, and it is very amusing to watch its efforts to pick it up. It has now got expert at this. Its mode of procedure is to pull the piece of meat along the ground until it gets it between two of its toes, when it pushes, or rather pulls it, up its leg until the lower mandible can close upon it. This operation sometimes takes quite a little time, and causes the bird to cover a god deal of ground, in a backward motion, whilst it is doing it, but it always succeeds in the end. I am wondering whether the under mandible will ever grow until it reaches its proper length. These birds, when feeding, work their bills from side to side like the Avocet and Stilt, and would, I should think, feed upon much the same kind of diet.

Slater, in *Argentine Ornithology*, is of the opinion that there are more than one species of Spoonbill in South America, he says:

"I believe that more than one species of Spoonbill inhabits South "America, and that the common Sponbill of the pampas is a distinct species "from the well known 'Ajaja;' but I find I am alone amongst ornitholo- "gists in this belief. The general belief is that the pale-plumaged birds "with feathered heads and black eyes (the Roseate Spoonbill having crim- "son eyes) and without the bright wing spots, the tuft on the breast, horny "excrescences on the beak, and other marks are only immature birds. "Now for one bird with all these characteristic marks of the true 'Ajaja' "which has a yellow tail, we meet on the pampas with not less than two "to three hundred examples of the pale-plumaged bird, without any traces "of such marks, and with a rose-coloured tail; and the disparity in number "between mature and immature birds of one species could not well be so "great as that. I have shot one immature specimen of the true 'Ajaja,' "so immature that it seemed not long out of the nest; but the head was "bare of feathers, and it had the knobs on the upper mandible, only they "were so soft that they could be indented with the nail of the finger. "Ayara also mentions an immature bird which he obtained, but he does not "say that the head was feathered; and even this negative evidence goes a "great way, since it would have been very unlike him to see a Spoonbill "with a feathered head, and otherwise unlike *Ajaja rosea*, and not describe "it as a distinct species. There are also anatomical differences between the "two birds; the pale-plumaged species having an ordinary trachea, while "*A. rosea* has a very curiously formed trachea, unlike that of any other "bird. To conclude I may mention that the pet bird my friend kept was "of the pale-plumaged species, and never lost the feathers from its head, "nor did it acquire any of the characteristic marks of *P. ajaja*."

This was written some 40 years ago, and it is to be assumed that this question has been cleared up long since.

[A. H. Evans, in *Cambridge Natural History* (Birds), published in 199, states in his comment on the young of spoonbills "In Ajaja the head is entirely feathered."—Ed.]

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Lakeland "Eagles".

Reprinted from *The Times*, March 12th, 1920, with thanks to the Editors and Author. Cutting per Rev. G. H. Raynor, M.A.—Ed.

BUZZARDS NESTING AT BUTTERMERE.

Nature lovers will hear with satisfaction that the Lakeland buzzards are extending their breeding range. A party of rock climbers detected a nest in the Buttermere Valley, and one of them, let down by a rope, found nesting in progress. The hope is expressed locally that the police may keep a sharp eye on the egg-collecting vandals, as the birds enhance the attractions of Lakeland, and their increase is desirable.

The birds have a great spread of wing, and their beauty in flight inspires naturalists with the hope that some day Lakeland may be converted into a miniature British Yellowstone Park, in which the indigenous fauna is carefully preserved. Although still styled the common buzzard, it is nowadays one of the most uncommon birds in Great Britain. As a rat destroyer it is a good friend to the farmer and merits protection. Lakelanders always speak of " buzzard hawks," but tourists, seeing them on motionless pinion high in the air, frequently call them " eagles."

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Book Notices and Reviews.

HANDLIST of the BIRDS OF EGYPT, by M. J. Nicoll, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., Assistant Director Zoological Service. CAIRO, The Government Publications Office, Old Ismalia Palace, Sharia Qasr el 'Aini. Price: P.T.15.

In his introduction the Author tells us that no scientific work dealing entirely with the avifauna of Egypt has been published since 1872, when the late Capt. G. E. Shelley published his *Hand-book on the Birds of Egypt*.

In Shelley's Handbook 352 species were given as inhabiting Egypt, but some of these were doubtful and only included them on the authority of older writers.

In the present list Mr. Nicoll enumerates 436 species as inhabiting Egypt, commencing with *PASSERES* and concluding with *STRUTHIONES*. The records are tabulated in the following form:

" 1. SONG THRUSH. *Turdus musicus musicus (Linnæus)*
" 1766. *Turdus musicus*. Shelley, p. 66.

"The European continental form of this thrush is "to be met with autumn to spring in suitable localities. In "some winters it is very abundant."

"It differs from the English thrush in being slightly "greyer above. Length about 9 inches. Upper-parts "greyish olive-brown. Under-parts white, washed on the "breast with yellowish buff, and profusely speckled with "brownish black spots."

The list is illustrated with a map of Egypt and the Soudan 23 plates, photo reproductions of upper and under surfaces of skins, ♂ and ♀, of many species of Chats, Warblers, and Wagtails. There are also 8 coloured plates, each figuring two, three, or four species, and include figures of three species of Bee-eaters, two species Hoopoes; while Chats, Warblers, Wagtails, Pipits, Flycatchers, Larks, Curlews, Plovers, and Egrets are all figured thereupon.

Mr. Nicoll has not only done good service to Egyptian ornithology, but to ornithology generally, and his Hand-List forms a valuable addition to Ornithological literature.

Editorial.

HYBRIDS. A correspondent in South Africa states that he has successfully reared hybrids between:—

Poliospiza angolensis × Domestic Canary.
Zosterops virens × Domestic Canary.

The latter cross is rather remarkable; at present we can only give the bare fact, but we hope to be able to supply further details later.

POST MORTEM EXAMINATIONS: We are pleased to state that Dr. N. S. Lucas has consented to undertake post mortem examinations for members. The conditions are very simple and will be found on page ii of cover. As Dr. Lucas is generously giving his services, we trust members will give as little trouble as possible, and *only ask for a reply per post in cases of urgency.*

Correspondence.

LOAN OF QUAKER PARRAKEET FOR BREEDING.

SIR,—I have a hen Quaker Parrakeet which lays eggs every year in its cage, which I shall be pleased to *lend* to anyone with a cock to try and breed them, if they will pay carriage. The bird is in a cold room, is very tame and very hardy; it has been with me about ten years.

Tarrant Keyneston Manor, Dorset. W. A. BAINBRIDGE.
March 6th, 1920.

BREEDING OF EGRETS IN CAPTIVITY.

Sir,—I see in the records of birds which have bred in captivity in January Bird Notes there is mention of Egrets being bred in the Giza Zoological Gardens, just how they were bred being queried.

I visited the Gardens in the summer of 1917 and 18, and did not notice that any of the Egrets in captivity were breeding, but I did notice the wild Egrets in the Gardens breeding; all the nests I saw were on the same tree, which contained, as far as I can remember, between twenty and thirty nests. These birds were certainly breeding in the Gardens, but were nevertheless wild, going off into the surrounding country and along the banks of the Nile, foraging for food; and this is how, I should presume, the Egrets Capt. Flowers refers to were bred in 1913.

There was quite a continuous cloud of these beautiful snow-white birds over and around the tree containing the nests, making one of the most interesting sights of the Gardens. I do not know the different species of Egrets, and am presuming these are the Little Egrets referred to.

By what I have seen, Egrets are not at all rare in Egypt to-day, although I understand at one time they were almost exterminated.

Leicester, February 5th, 1920. R. H. CARR.

THE AFFINITY OF BIRDS AND CHILDREN

Sir,—Over the past few years, since I noticed particularly the habits of birds, both in my aviaries and in the wild state, I have been most interested.

One point recently brought home to me is that birds prefer company and preferably that of quite young children. I was surprised to find that, although the birds in the aviary knew me well, they would always fly about as though startled, whereas, my baby daughter would play about the wire walls and they took not the least notice of her.

I hung out a nest-box to entice the tits to build in the garden, which they duly accomplished. The two children played within five yards, in a sand pit I made for them, while the birds built the nest and reared the young. The birds would not go to the box if I stood or sat within fifteen yards of it. I do not care for keeping birds in cages as a rule, but particularly wanted to hear the Black-capped Warbler and Nightingale in full song, so secured two good birds. The Black-cap was an adult bird but did not sing, although thoroughly well fed and looked after. I tried a quiet place for him, a light place—but no result. I said in desperation " the children had better have it in the nursery," of course, much to their delight. The bird was warbling in an hour, and has sung regularly since! The Nightingale question was a poser. I read that they should have a quiet room, and in twelve months he has had quiet and noisy, and dark and bright positions, but not a warble! He is a fine bird, tame and in good condition. The other day the nurse suggested putting him in the nursery for a change. He was warbling away as " happy as Larry " within an hour!

March 16th, 1920. H. C. W.

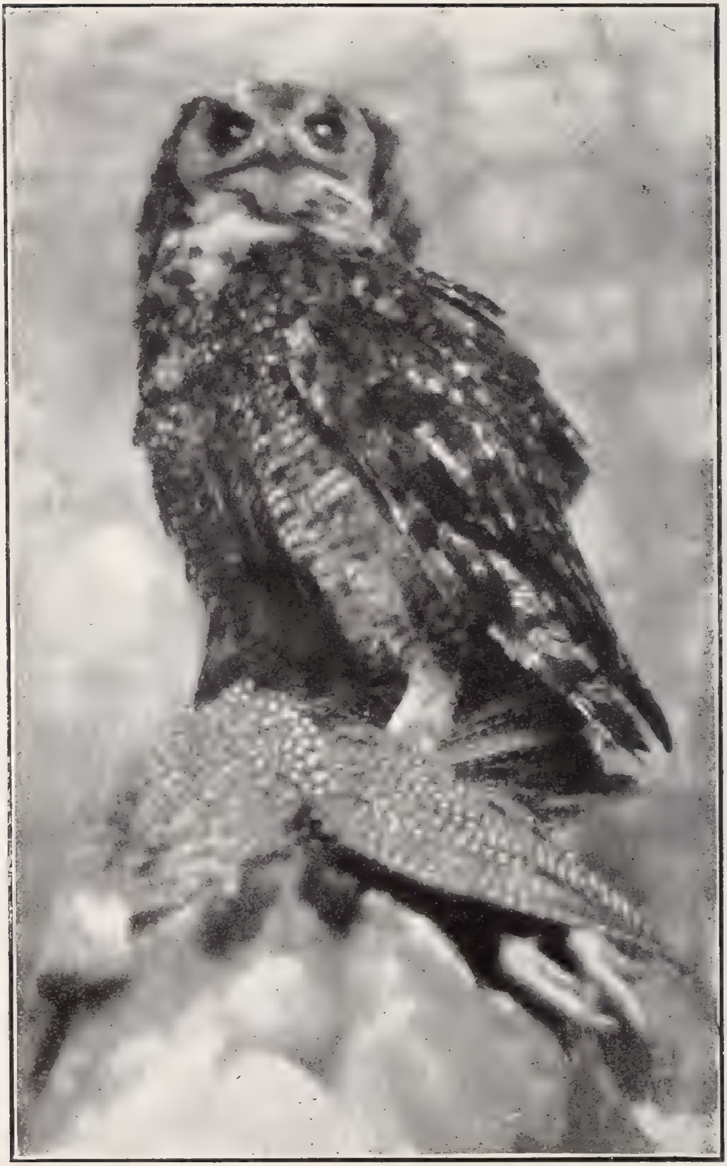

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Spotted Eagle-Owl ♀ and Helmeted Guinea Fowl.

Bubo maculosus and Numida cornuta.

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BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

On a Visit to Mr. Hamlyn's, and some Eagle Owls, etc.

BY W. SHORE BAILY.

Towards the end of last February hearing from Mr. Hamlyn that he had just received a large consignment of birds and beasts from South Africa, I paid a visit to his place in the Ratcliffe Highway to see if I could find anything to fill up some of my empty aviaries. On arriving I found that the African stock was still in the packing cases in which they had travelled. I first looked at the small birds, amongst which was a cage full of seedeaters closely resembling the Cape Sparrow *(Passer arcuatus)* but which Mr. Hamlyn has since found out to be Mahali Weavers. Here I was rather tempted to secure a pair of Yellow-billed Hornbills, which were tame and in very fair condition. Another bird that rather appealed to me was the Grey Touracou, a very pretty bird and in fine condition, but the difficulty of feeding and the uncertainty as to whether they would stand our climate out of doors in the summer caused me to refrain from purchasing, and I finally decided to try my luck with some of the larger and hardier species. The first bird I examined in this department was a Bataleur Eagle—a small eagle, common in South Africa, and one not too particular in its diet, and consequently easy to cater for. Whilst I was looking at this bird I was suddenly startled nearly out of my skin by a Cape Hunting Dog, which sprang at my legs with a ferocious growl. I hadn't noticed that I had been standing within a foot of its box. Luckily the bars of its cage were covered with small mesh netting, or my trousers wouldn't have been worth very much. It was a savage looking beast, and I shouldn't care to meet one in a narrow lane without a gun in my hand. Whilst recovering from the shock the brute had given me, I felt something pulling at my coat behind, and on turning around I found that a fine grey Vulture was trying to investigate one of my pockets. It was very tame, and, in spite of its powerful bill, did not give me the impression of cruelty usually associated with these birds. My first thought was that I had found the very thing for one of my big aviaries, as they were a very fine pair of birds and in perfect health, and they would be something not seen in the country every day. But on second thoughts I judged that, as carrion feeders, they might perhaps not prove very nice neighbours in an aviary, situated close to one's house, so I gave up the idea with some reluctance. One has to consider one's better half sometimes, even in birdy matters, and I pride myself that I have never kept Storks or similar high smelling creatures in my bedroom, as some naturalists seem to do; see *The Adventures of a Naturalist's Wife* in the *Wild World Magazine*. The attendant next called my attention to another large bird, which he considered to be some kind of an Eagle. On examination it proved to be a Giant Hornbill—a very fine bird, and one that would certainly attract attention in any part of the country. However, I had to consider my young ducks and chickens. A bird with a bill the size that this one carries wouldn't have much trouble in swallowing the broody hens as well as their young ones, so I left it for someone without these encumbrances.

After examining some very fine Stanley Cranes, I suddenly spotted a couple of boxes of large Owls. These proved to be Spotted Eagle-Owls *(Bubo maculosus)*. There were five altogether; I picked out what I thought was a true pair, and which I have since discovered to be an adult and a last year's young one. From their demeanour I think that the old one is a hen, and the young one a cock, so that I hope one day to get them to nest. On their arrival at Westbury I turned them into a small well-shaded aviary, and they seemed very glad to get out of their close quarters. The young one was especially lively, hopping about and patting its mother on the head with its wing in much the same way as one sees young pigeons do with their parents when they want to be fed. It also took a bath, jumping

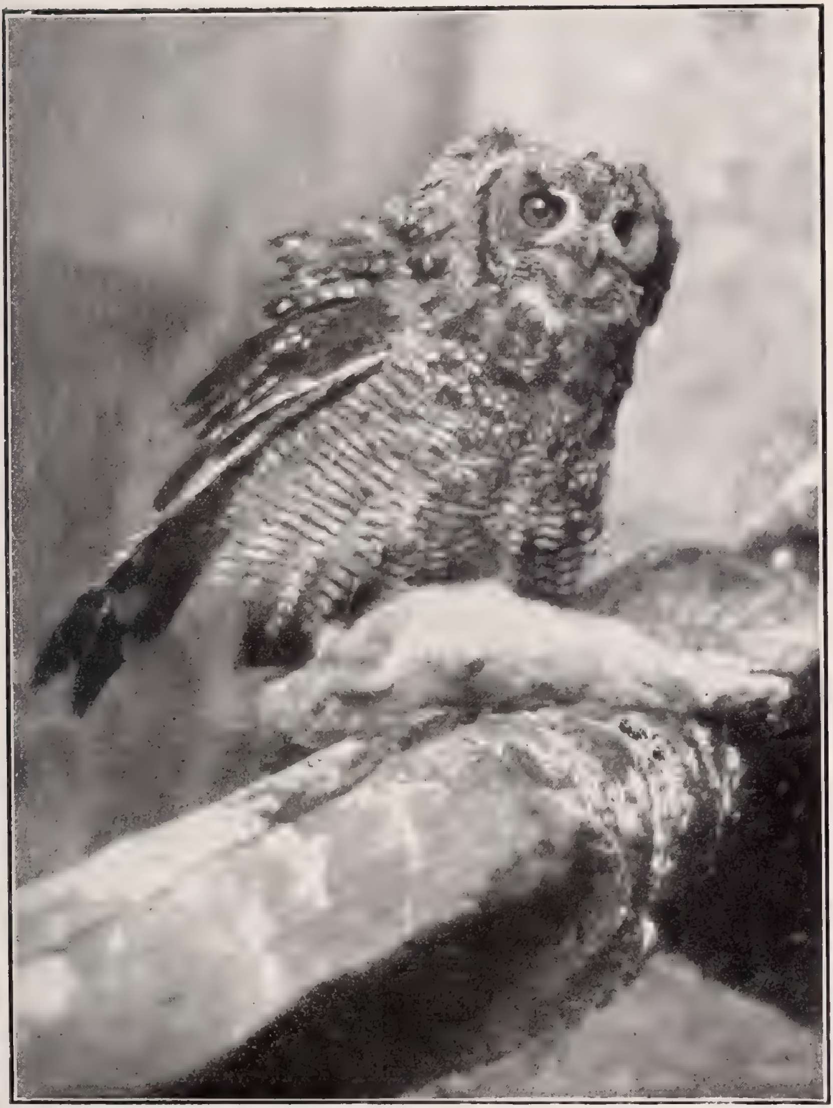

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Spotted Eagle-Owl ♀
Bubo maculosus.

in and out of the dish a dozen times or more before making up its mind to thoroughly wet itself. This bird has now got quite tame. One day, recently, when photographing its mother, I left my Reflex camera in the aviary, and on my return, a few minutes later, I found it perched on the view-finder, examining itself in the glass. These are one of the commonest of the South African Owls. They take their name from the large white spots with which the back of their heads, backs, and wing coverts are adorned. These markings, which are plainly seen in the photographs, give the birds a very handsome appearance, So far, with the exception of beak snapping and hissing, I have heard them make no noise, but we have so many barn and tawny owls around the house at night that their cries may be easily mistaken for those of these birds.

Dr. Stark, writing of *Bubo maculosus* in the Western part of Cape Colony, on October 8th, 1896, says:—"This "morning, as I was climbing the side of a rocky kopje, about "a quarter of a mile from the village, a large Horned Owl "flew from just in front of me, leaving exposed two eggs "lying in a scratching in the earth on a shelf of rock, sheltered by low weeds and bushes. They flew a short distance "and sat fully exposed on a rock with horns erect, and with "the brilliant yellow sides conspicuous. I had previously "seen another *Bubo* on this side of the hill, and heard it hoot "one evening—a rather mellow *how-how*, which reminded me "of the noise of a baboon. These owls are very common "in the neighbourhood, and I have often startled them from "their nests under bushes on the bush-covered plains and "sides of the hills. Next morning when I returned to the "nest, I found both the eggs gone; one lay broken about ten "feet off under a rock; the nest was a flat space of ground, "about a foot across, with a few leaves and bits of broken "dead stick strewed promiscuously about it."

They feed on mice, rats and small birds, but are quite capable of tackling larger prey, and I suspect that they work a good deal of destruction amongst the young guinea fowl, francolin and quail, as they appear to be to some extent diurnal.

Records of Birds which have Bred in Captivity

By E. Hopkinson, D.S.O., M.A., M.B.

(*Continued from page 63*).

For meaning of abbreviations *vide* pages 58-59 (Vol. I.).

589.—BLACK-BREASTED KALIJ. *G. horsfieldi.*

Hybrids.

× Black-breasted Kalij (Black-backed Kalij).
× Black-breasted Kalij (Silver Pheasant).
× Black-breasted Kalij (Burmese Silver Pheasant).
× Black-breasted Kalij (Japanese Pheasant).
× Black-breasted Kalij (Domestic Fowl).

590.—SILVER PHEASANT. *G. nycthemerus.* **W.T.P.**

Commonly bred.

Hybrids.

SILVER PHEASANT × BURMESE SILVER PHEASANT.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
,, ,, × BLACK-BREASTED KALIJ.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
,, ,, × BLACK-BACKED KALIJ.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
,, ,, × WHITE-CRESTED KALIJ.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
,, ,, × COMMON PHEASANT.
†Bartlett.

× Silver Pheasant (Monal).
× Silver Pheasant (Swinhoe's Silver Pheasant).
× Silver Pheasant (Golden Pheasant).

591.—BURMESE SILVER PHEASANT. *G. lineatus.*

Hybrids.

BURMESE SILVER PHEASANT × BLACK-BACKED KALIJ.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
,, ,, ,, × BLACK-BREASTED KALIJ.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
,, ,, ,, × WHITE-CRESTED KALIJ.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."

× Burmese Silver Pheasant (Silver Pheasant).

592.—SWINHOE'S SILVER PHEASANT. *G. swinhoii.* **W.T.P.**

Zoo, 1905, etc.

Hybrids.

SWINHOE'S SILVER PHEASANT × SILVER PHEASANT. W.T.P.

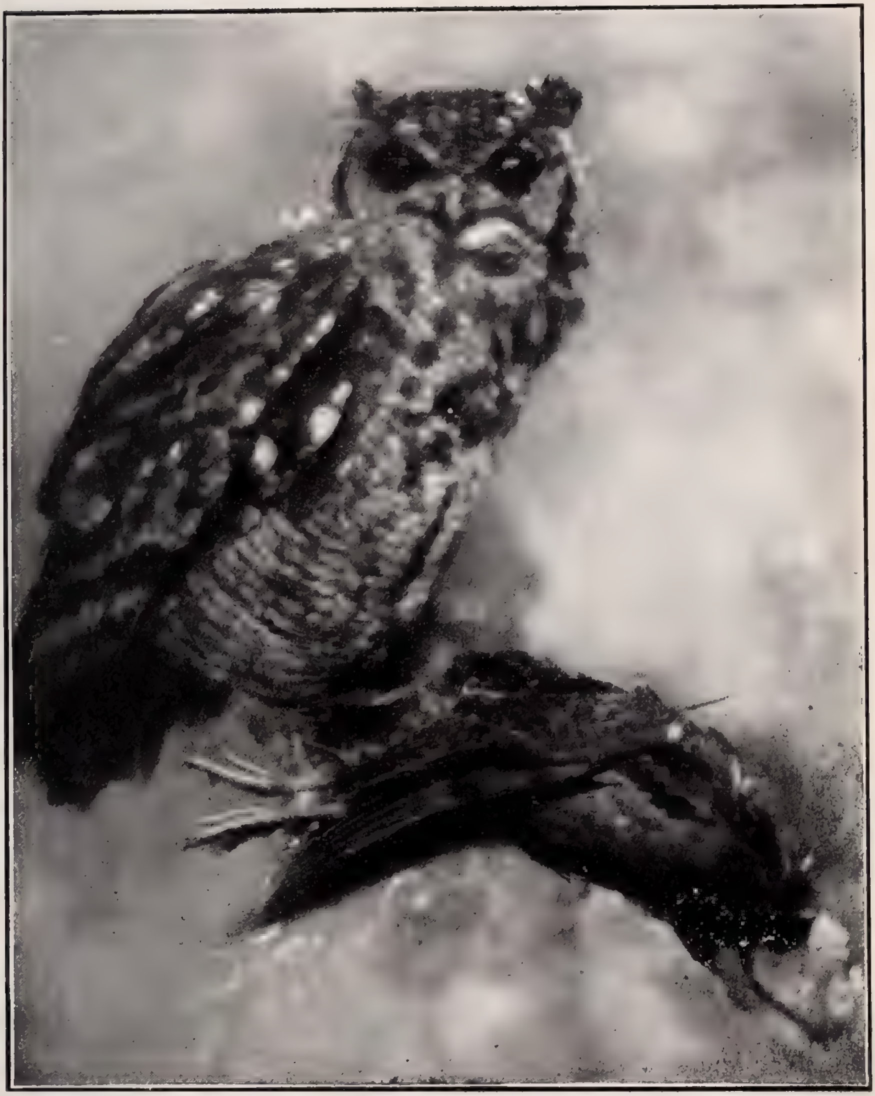

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Spotted Eagle-Owl ♂ and Red-winged Francolin.
Bubo maculosus and Francolinus levaillanti.

593.—CHEER PHEASANT. *Catreus wallichi.*
Hybrids.
× Cheer Pheasant (Reeve's Pheasant).

594.—COMMON PHEASANT. *Phasianus colchicus.* **W.T.P.**
Commonly bred. Or rather nowadays it is a cross-bred race which is the Common Pheasant of the British Isles and Europe.
Hybrids.
COMMON PHEASANT × BLACK GROUSE.
†Vale.
.. .. × BLACK-BACKED KALIJ.
†Vale. "In evidence at the S.K. Museum."
.. .. × RING-NECKED PHEASANT.
†Vale. Commonly bred.
.. .. × JAPANESE PHEASANT.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
.. .. × REEVE'S PHEASANT.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
.. .. × GOLDEN PHEASANT.
†Bartlett. "Offspring fertile."
.. .. × DOMESTIC FOWL.
†Vale. "In evidence at the S.K. Museum."
.. .. × GUINEAFOWL.
†Vale.
× Common Pheasant (Red Grouse).
× Common Pheasant (Black Grouse).
× Common Pheasant (Mongolian Pheasant).
× Common Pheasant (Japanese Pheasant).
× Common Pheasant (Amherst Pheasant).
× Common Pheasant (Reeve's Pheasant).
× Common Pheasant (Golden Pheasant).
× Common Pheasant (Silver Pheasant).
× Common Pheasant (Domestic Fowl).

595.—PRINCE OF WALES' PHEASANT. *P. principalis.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1907, etc.

596.—MONGOLIAN PHEASANT. *P. mongolicus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1910 and elsewhere.
Hybrids.
MONGOLIAN × COMMON PHEASANT.
W.T.P. Zoo, 1904, etc.

597.—RING-NECKED PHEASANT. *P. torquatus.*
Commonly.
Hybrids.
× Ring-necked (Common), and presumably others (E.H.).

◆

598.—SATSCHUEN PHEASANT. *P. satschuenensis.*
Zoo, 1906.

◆

599.—JAPANESE PHEASANT. *P. versicolor.* **W.T.P.**
Hybrids.
JAPANESE PHEASANT × BLACK-BREASTED KALIJ.
†Vale. " In evidence at the S.K. Museum."
,, ,, × COMMON PHEASANT.
Zoo, 1910.
× Japanese Pheasant (Common Pheasant).

◆

600.—COPPER PHEASANT. *P. scintillans.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1907, 1908.

◆

Mr. Page notes that many of the Pheasants and their hybrids were bred " by the aid of incubator and foster-parents, and therefore not eligible for his list, which was primarily intended to be a list of those species which have been bred without such artificial aids.

◆

601.—REEVES' PHEASANT. *Syrmaticus reevesi.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo and elsewhere.
Hybrids.
REEVES' × COMMON PHEASANT.
†Vale. " In evidence at the S.K. Museum."
× CHEER PHEASANT.
†Bartlett.
Reeves' (Common Pheasant).
× Reeves' (Golden Pheasant).

◆

602.—ELLIOTT'S PHEASANT. *Calophasis elliotti.* **W.T.P.**
Hybrids.
× Mikado (Elliott's Pheasant).

603.—MIKADO PHEASANT. *C. mikado.* **W.T.P.**
1st Johnstone, 1913. See A.M. 1915, 266, and Zoo, 1913.
HYBRIDS.
MIKADO PHEASANT × ELLIOTT'S.
Johnstone. See A.M. 1915, 266.

◆

604.—GOLDEN PHEASANT. *Chrysolophus pictus.* **W.T.P.**
Commonly.
HYBRIDS.
GOLDEN × COMMON PHEASANT.
†Vale. "In evidence at the S.K. Museum."
,, × SILVER PHEASANT. †Bartlett.
,, × REEVES' PHEASANT. †Vale.
,, × AMHERST PHEASANT. †Vale.
× Golden Pheasant (Common Pheasant).

◆

605.—AMHERST PHEASANT. *C. amherstiae.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1904, etc.
HYBRIDS.
AMHERST × COMMON PHEASANT.
W.T.P. Vale, "in evidence at the S.K. Museum."
× Amherst (Golden Pheasant).

To be continued.

◆

A Retrospect

BY W. A. BAINBRIDGE.

As a schoolboy, it had always been my ambition to keep birds, probably because they were about the only pet at which I had not tried my prentice-hand, but being away from home half the year made it impossible—my Cambridge days gave me no chance, and it was only when I got married that my opportunity came.

I wonder whether everyone makes the mistakes that I made when I started. Looking back, with a few years' experience behind me, I wonder that any of my first acquired birds lived, but one learns, and "B.N." certainly helped me, and that, coupled with the advice of our kindly Editor, finally put me on the right road.

I remember my first aviary—I had a pair of Cockatiels, five pairs of Budgerigars, and pairs of Madagascar, and Black-faced Lovebirds, not to mention a pair of Rosella and Red-rump Parrakeets.

The noise was deafening, and, when some kind friend suggested that Waxbills and Finches would be nicer, my wife agreed, and so the deed was done. The Parrakeets went, so did the aviary, and a new one was built. In this case a small portion of the garden was wired in, a shelter bought and erected, and then came the birds.

I started one day on a tour of the bird-shops, and, as I had never seen a Waxbill, I had little to go upon; still I made my purchases. If I remember aright they were pairs of Bengalese, Grey, Golden-breasted, and other Waxbills, also a pair of Grey Java Sparrows. The White form, which cost 7s. 6d. a pair, were not bought, as they seemed too expensive—rather humorous this, when I think that a short year later I was cheerfully paying £5 a pair for Yuhinas, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatches, Brown-backed Robins, and other varieties.

Home I went as proud as Punch, and as perky as the proverbial sparrow, opened the aviary door and let them go. I knew nothing of acclimatisation and all that goes with it, and so a day or so later another visit was paid to the bird-shops to purchase odd birds in order to complete the pairs—several having died. This was repeated more than once, and then I learned wisdom.

Now, if I buy a pair of birds from a dealer, they are taken home and put in a small cage for some days; grit is given very sparingly, and their first drink is Epsom salts. Having, as it were, purified their system a tonic is given for some days; after a week they go into a larger cage, and, if all is well, in another fortnight the cage is taken into the shelter of the aviary, the cage door opened, and I get away as fast as possible, allowing them to find their own way out as quietly as they can.

Since I adopted this method my losses from newly-imported birds have greatly decreased, and I no longer experience that anxious moment of counting the birds in the aviary daily, to see if there are any or how many deaths.

This aviary, 20ft. x 10ft., was doubled to 20ft. x 20ft. very soon, and a few months later a much larger aviary took shape, one of its chief features being a full-sized nut tree, which certainly provided more insect life than all the other bushes put together.

Finally the war came, and, except for a few old favourites, all the birds went. Five years of army life—the last being three years in Salonica without leave—found me coming home, and before I arrived the last of my favourites had died; so, here I am once again with a new start to make, and, having changed my residence, there are new aviaries to build; this latter is the worst feature, as, since my return, I have started poultry-farming (the Bar no longer sees me waiting for briefs) ,and there are poultry houses to make, wire netting to put up, and the hundred and one things to do; still my first aviary has been begun and my first birds bought.

This time it is Blue Budgerigars, but as soon as I can manage another aviary, the finches will come into their own; even now I have a small consignment on its way from Africa, a *quid pro quo* for birds sent there in pre-war days.

Enough for preface. Let me think back about the birds, which have at one time or the other inhabited my aviaries. A recent importation of Cuban birds brings them first to my mind, so Cuban Finches must come first.

A pair of these birds *(Phonipara canora)* were generally to be found in my aviaries, and a more cheery, bright little bird it would be hard to find. He is ever in the foreground with his black face and bright yellow breast. Butler, in his book, calls it the Melodious Finch; goodness knows why, I don't, because it isn't anything out of the way in the song line.

Its chief attraction in my eyes is the ease with which it can be bred; there is more in it than to take a pair of Cuban

Finches, give them a nesting place and nesting material, and count the young ones, but some pairs rear very few; of course pairs differ in this respect, as in others.

For one thing, they do not want insect food, mealworms, spiders, or anything difficult to procure.

One thing must always be remembered, and that is that two pairs won't live in the same aviary, and the young must be removed; for a more quarrelsome bird with its own kind I have never met. I once carried a cage containing a pair into the aviary where there already was a pair, and they fought through the bars despite my presence. With other birds they are generally harmless, although I once discovered a male bird sitting on top of a cock Golden-breasted Waxbill and pecking it to death; this became a habit of his, and I had to remove them; they were then placed in another aviary with exactly the same kind of birds, and, strange to say, from that time onwards were always peaceful, law-abiding citizens.

RED.HEADED FINCHES *(Amadina erythrocephala)* are perhaps the most prolific species I ever kept. I started with one pair. They at once chose a coco-nut husk, and laid, and then laid again before the young left the nest. I noticed that the parents were about in the aviary a great deal, so fearing for the youngsters I looked into the husk, and found them strong and well and sitting on a new clutch of eggs, thereby relieving the mother of this job, with which she carried on when they left the nest. This was repeated, either once or twice more— I forget which —and by the time the last lot were fledged the first lot were sitting on eggs of their own.

Finally, they became too numerous and out they all had to go. Again, some pairs are very prolific, whilst others do little. My advice is, try a pair, and if they do not nest, get another; when once they start you need not worry, you will soon have enough and to spare.

To be continued.

Three Tovi Parrakeets—Difference in Character.

BY MISS D. E. PETHIE.

It is now a good many years since I started keeping a Tovi as a pet—I had to wait quite six months before I could get one from Messrs. De Von. When it did arrive it was worth the wait; " Sammy " No. 1 was 7s. 6d. only! He, or rather she, as we found out later, was quite a Dickens-character. In three days " Sammy " was quite tame; she was very dirty, and I think the hand washing that was given her helped in making her less frightened. She used to spend hours on my shoulder, and didn't mind one old cat we had a bit, but her character was more developed when we came to Southsea. She was always out, and shouted loudly if left alone a minute. She used to come everywhere on my shoulder, and every now and then give friendly (?) nips at my neck, but I wasn't quite so keen on such caresses, as she had a way of taking up a small piece and giving it a twist; also she loved anything bright, and bit through a gold chain of mine two or three times before I could stop her. Funnily enough the colour orange terrified her, and she would sit motionless for hours if there were any flowers of that colour about. When my mother was ill " Sammy " was left a good deal alone; she used to jump off her cage (her wing was cut) run across the room and into my mother's room next door, look up at the bed to see if my mother was there, if so climb up, and go to sleep with her head under the clothes. Once or twice she ran into the room when my mother was not there, and if she heard voices downstairs she'd hurry down and " cheep " all the way. One day we heard a frantic " cheep " outside the door, and there was " Sammy " feeling lonely. Another day I was at the top of the house; " Sammy " evidently couldn't find anyone, so, hearing a noise, came upstairs to investigate, patiently climbing each stair, and grousing the whole time—such a relief when the top one was negotiated.

Unfortunately this " Sammy " died 3 years ago, but before she died she took a great dislike to me. She was on my shoulder when I was whistling to " Jack," my troupial, when she suddenly flew at at my ear and hung on—it was some time before we could get her loose. She never forgave me, and would run across the room after me, and looked like the "old fellow" when I tried to make friends.

"Sammy" No. 2 was a poor little specimen; he was never very healthy, but got quite tame for some weeks before he died. I rather suspect he was a Tui, as he had a yellow head.

"Sammy" No. 3 is a very stolid-looking bird, though full of original sin. He is a very fine specimen, and is sometimes (always on Sundays I notice) very noisy. He is never happy away from our Blue-fronted Conure, which really hates him, and now and then they have a rare set-to. "Sammy" never knows when he is beaten. I must say he is an awful pig—prefers the Conure's food to his own; will drop anything given him to eat for the Conure's, although they are always given their food together. He tries hard to talk, and looks as if he will burst with trying sometimes. He has picked up several noises made by the Conure (which talks well), and says "eh" in exactly the same tone. We often wonder if he will learn any more—he seems a young bird.

He isn't very tame, and (I hope the male readers will forgive me), is like some men, very selfish! He is much more gentle than any of the other Tovis, and I've never had a hard nip from him all the time I've had him, which is nearly 2 years. He is a whale for shredding paper, or tearing holes in curtains, so I generally keep a piece of rag tied to his cage; it doesn't last very long, for I've known him wake up in the night and nibble it! He seems to want companionship, but doesn't get any tamer, so I want to get him a mate, and should be glad if any reader has one to spare if they'd let me know. Meanwhile, the Conure, much to his disgust, has to put up with being rammed in a corner, and made much of by "Sammy" who loves him.

He likes bright metal things, like "Sammy" No. 1, but colours do not affect him.

To my mind, when you can get a really tame Tovi Parrakeet, nothing can beat it for sweetness of temper and faithfulness, if one can say such a thing about birds. This "Sammy" doesn't like his feathers shucked like "Sammy" No. 1, who used to ask for it; I gently rub their plumage where they can't reach in moulting time, and sometimes get reminded by a good nip that I am clumsy. I'm not allowed to do it now as my finger is gently pushed away.

The other members of the family have always been tolerated by the "Sammies," but they've always been very fond of me. I may add, in spite of "Sammy" being a "man" he can't "abear" men, and flies wildly about if they try to make friends. If ever I can get a "Mrs. Sammy" I shall be quite happy, and so I hope will "Sammy!"

The Tovi Parrakeet *(Brotogerys jugularis)* ranges over South Mexico, Central America, and Columbia.

Its general colour is green, more yellow beneath; chin-spot of bright yellow; primary-coverts deep blue; beak pale brownish flesh-colour; legs and feet yellowish. Sexes similar in plumage.

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The Virginian Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis

By E. Fitch Daglish, Ph. D., F.Z.S., etc.

> "Brave songster of the flaming coat, too proud to hide your flashing beauty, too fearless to be cautious of the many dangers that beset you, from the top of the morning we greet you, and hail you King of Birdland, at your imperious command, 'See here, See here!'"
>
> "*The Song of the Cardinal.*"

In forwarding a few notes to the Club Journal I feel that something akin to an apology is needed for taking as the subject a bird so generally known as the Virginian Cardinal, for of recent years the name at least of this species has become a household word. Yet to the more recently joined members these few remarks may be of some interest, particularly at this time when these birds are again appearing in the market in considerable numbers. I may say at once that, in my opinion, there are few birds indeed that can equal the brilliant *Cardinalis virginianus* as an inhabitant of the aviary, whether considered from the point of view of beauty, interest, or intelligence. The general hue of the plumage is, of course, red, the tint varying from rose pink to the brightest carmine. For the benefit of those unacquainted with the bird I append a description taken from Dr. Butler's well known work:—

Male. Upper surface, including wing coverts, brownish lake red with ashy edges to the feathers; remaining wing feathers somewhat dusky, with brick-red outer webs, becoming paler towards the tips; front of head, crest, cheeks and under surface bright rosy scarlet; a black patch commencing in a narrow frontal band, enclosing the upper mandible, expanding at the base of the beak laterally, so as partly to enclose eyes, and terminating in a broad patch on the chin and throat; tail feathers below rosy brown, sometimes inclining to greyish; beak orange vermillion; iris of eyes hazel; legs dark greyish brown; length eight and eight-tenths inches.

Female. The hen is quite unlike the cock; above pale olive brown, paler on the forehead; the crest, outer web of primaries, greater wing-coverts, centre portion of secondaries, and tail feathers, broadly edged with pale olive brown; under surface of wings rosy red; tips of primaries and tail very pale brown; quills dark brown; cheeks, breast and sides pale ochre brown, becoming paler towards the abdomen; a narrow frontal band, the chin and throat slatey grey; legs paler than in male; length 8½ inches.

In a wild state the Virginian Cardinal has a wide range through the American continent, extending from Ontario to Florida, and from the Atlantic coast to the plains of Kansas. It frequents, particularly, the neighbourhood of thickets and woods, and nests in tangled shrubberies and undergrowth, or in a vine or thick tree, the yew and cedar being favourites. The nest is usually placed fairly low down, commonly about 6ft. from the ground and is loosely though well constructed of twigs, barks, etc., lined with grass, and is cup-shaped. These birds rarely nest far from a stream or river.

A great point in favour of the Red Cardinal as an aviary bird is its hardihood; another is its song. With regard to the former I need only say that this species may be kept all the year round in an outdoor unheated aviary, in perfect health, and I have never known it exhibit the slightest discomfort, even during a London winter at its worst.

The beauty of its song has earned for the Virginian the title of "nightingale," and for a hard-billed bird certainly its vocal powers are remarkable. It is no exaggeration to state that its song at its best is very little inferior to that of the Blackbird, and indeed it resembles the whistling of that bird to no small degree.

With regard to its treatment in captivity, I consider the great secret of success is a varied menu. My own birds have access to a mixture of sunflower seed, hemp seed, oats and canary seed, as well as to the seeds put down for the other birds in the aviary. I also supply them liberally with fruit (grapes, apple, orange, banana, etc.) and live food (mealworms, small beetles, smooth caterpillars, etc.). I have never found this Cardinal at all quarrelsome or spiteful, and consider it safe to leave it with quite small birds. At the present time I have a cock flying with such birds as Taha, Orange and Madagascar Weavers, and I have never seen him exhibit the least inclination to "bully."

I have not yet bred this bird in my aviaries, but have great hopes of doing so this year. It has been bred by others on several occasions, the young, at first, being reared almost entirely on insects, etc., though later fruit is added to the menu.

In conclusion, I strongly recommend members who appreciate birds beautiful in appearance, vivacious in movement, and at once intelligent and familiar, to become possessed of one or more pairs of this truly delightful Cardinal, and I am sure they will never regret the acquisition.

Zoo Breeding Successes, Etc.,

The following extracts from Zoo Report for 1919 will doubtless prove of general interest, as it includes several species not prevoiusly recorded as bred in captivity.

Birds bred in the Gardens of the London Zoological Society during the years 1916 to 1919 inclusive.

1916.

May 14.	3 White Storks *(Ciconia ciconia)*, 2 died in nest, 1 fully reared.
June 14.	5 Egyptian Geese *(Alopochen aegyptiacus)*, all fully reared.
June 30.	2 Andean Geese *(Chloephaga melanoptera)*, 1 died at 6 weeks; 1 fully reared.
July 17.	1 Bernicle Goose *(Branta leucopsis)*, died at 2 weeks old.
June & July	12 Carolina Ducks *(Lampronessa sponsa)*, 10 fully reared.
July 3.	1 Mandarin Duck *(Æx galericulata)*. 2 Muscovy Ducks *(Cairina moschata)*. 4 Spot-billed Ducks *(Anas pœcilorhyncha)*. 2 Andaman Teal *(Nettium albigulare)*. All fully reared.
Sept. 14.	1 Naked-eyed Pigeon *(Columba gymnophthalma)*, fully reared.
Oct. 22.	1 Auriculated Dove *(Zenaida auriculata)*, fully reared.
Oct. 3.	2 Buckley's Ground-Doves *(Chamæpelia buckleyi)*, died at 2 months old.
July 20.	11 Partridges *(Perdix perdix)*, hatched from eggs presented by Charles Vernon Boys, Esq., F.R.S., all reared.
June 23.	7 Lineated Kaleege Pheasants *(Gennæus lineatus)*, 5 fully reared.
July 17.	2 Amherst's Pheasants *(Chrysolophus amherstiæ)*, fully reared.
June 21.	3 Hybrid Javan and Red Jungle-fowl *(Gallus varius × G. gallus)*, fully reared.
July 17.	2 Burmese Peafowl *(Pavo muticus)*, died in December. 1 Hybrid Burmese and Black-winged Peafowl *(Pavo muticus × P. cristatus, var nigripennis)*, reared.
June 22.	7 Greater Black-backed Gulls *(Larus marinus)*, fully reared.
July 8.	8 Rufous Tinamous *(Rhynchotus rufescens)*, 4 died when half grown; 4 reared.
July 20.	5 Common Rheas *(Rhea americana)*, 4 reared; 1 killed for malformation.

1917.

April 20.	1 Green White-eye *(Zosterops virens)*, reared.
June 7.	3 Chestnut-eared Finches *(Tæniopygia castanotis)*, all reared.
Aug. 3.	3 Chestnut-eared Finches *(Tæniopygia castanotis)*, all reared.
Sept. 24.	4 Chestnut-eared Finches *(Tæniopygia castanotis)*, all reared.
Sept. 29.	5 Avadavats *(Sporæginthus amandava)*, reared.
Aug. 3.	3 Parrot Finches *(Erythrura psittacea)*, reared,

Oct. 8. 1 Angolan Singing Finch *(Serinus angolensis)*, reared.
May 29 1 Grey Singing Finch *(Crithagra musica)*, reared.
July 25. 2 Cuban Finches *(Phonipara canora)*, reared.
May 31. 1 Pileated Song-Sparrow *(Zonotrichia pileata)*, reared.
July 2. 1 Pileated Song-Sparrow *(Zonotrichia pileata)*, reared.
July 23. 2 Orange Weaver-birds *(Euplectes franciscana)*, reared.
June 12. 2 Southern White-cheeked Finch Larks *(Pyrrhulauda smithi)*, reared.
Jan. 25. 2 Hybrid Swainson's and Red-collared Lorikeets *(Trichoglossus novæ-hollandiæ × T. rubritorques)*, reared.
Oct. 24. 1 Hybrid Swainson's and Red-collared Lorikeets *(Trichoglossus novæ-hollandiæ × T. rubritorques)*, reared.
July 21. 3 Budgerigars *(Melopsittacus undulatus)*, reared.
Aug. 6. 1 Muscovy Duck *(Cairina moschata)*, reared.
July 19. 1 Mandarin Duck *(Æx galericulata)*, reared.
June 22. 4 Carolina Ducks *(Lampronessa sponsa)*, reared.
July 19. 6 Carolina Ducks *(Lampronessa sponsa)*, reared.
Aug. 6. 1 Hybrid Carolina and Spot-bill Duck *(Lampronessa sponsa × Anas pœcilorhyncha)*, reared.
2 Bernicle Geese *(Branta leucopsis)*, reared.
June 7. 2 Diamond Doves *(Geopelia cuneata)*, reared.
July 2. 2 Diamond Doves *(Geopelia cuneata)*, reared.
Aug. 24. 1 Diamond Dove *(Geopelia cuneata)*, reared.
May 30. 2 Auriculated Doves *(Zenaida auriculata)*, reared.
Aug. 24. 2 Auriculated Doves *(Zenaida auriculata)*, reared.
Sept. 2. 2 Indian Palm Doves *(Stigmatopelia cambayensis)*, reared.
June 19. 1 Buckley's Ground Dove *(Chamæpelia buckleyi)*.
July 17. 2 Buckley's Ground Doves *(Chamæpelia buckleyi)*, reared.
June 7. 1 Crested Pigeon *(Ocyphaps lophotes)*, reared.
July 23. 1 Crested Pigeon *(Ocyphaps lophotes)*, reared.
May 22. 4 Southern Triangular Spotted Pigeons *(Columba phæonota)*, reared.
June 22. 4 Southern Triangular Spotted Pigeons *(Columba phæonota)*, reared.
Aug. 18. 6 Common Pheasants *(Phasianus colchicus)*, reared.
4 Silver Pheasants *(Gennæus nycthemerus)*, reared.
1 Hybrid Sonnerat's and Red Jungle-fowl *(Gallus sonnerati × G. gallus)*, reared.
1 North-American Turkey *(Meleagris americana)*, reared.
July 2. 3 Greater Black-backed Gulls *(Larus marinus)*, reared.

1918.

June 17. 2 White Storks *(Ciconia ciconia)*, hatched about June 10th; died June 20th.
2 Ruddy Sheldrakes *(Casarca casarca)*, reared.
May 30. 6 Upland Geese *(Chloephaga magellanica)*, reared,

April 18. 2 Southern Triangular-spotted Pigeons *(Columba phæonota)*, reared.
July 2. 4 Southern Triangular-spotted Pigeons *(Columba phæonota)*, reared.
2 Buckley's Ground Doves *(Chamæpelia buckleyi)*, reared.
1 Barred Dove *(Geopelia striata)*, reared.
June 1. 2 Red Grouse *(Lagopus scoticus)*, hatched from eggs presented by Capt. Hugh S. Gladstone, F.Z.S., died at 3 weeks.
Aug. 19. 3 Red Jungle-fowl *(Gallus gallus)*, reared.
June 24. 6 Greater Black-backed Gulls *(Larus marinus)*, reared.

1919.

July 11. 3 Ruddy Sheldrakes *(Casarca casarca)*, reared.
July 13. 6 Carolina Ducks *(Lampronessa sponsa)*, reared.
5 Spot-billed Ducks *(Anas pœcilorhyncha)*, reared.
1 Chestnut-breasted Teal *(Nettium castaneum)*, reared.
July 8. 3 Spot-billed Ducks *(Anas pœcilorhyncha)*, not reared.
July 8. 2 Carolina Ducks *(Lampronessa sponsa)*, not reared.
Sept. 3. 2 Southern Triangular-spotted Pigeons *(Columba phæonota)*, reared.
Aug. 2. 1 Crested Pigeon *(Ocyphaps lophotes)*, reared.
1 Naked-eyed Pigeon *(Columba gymnophthalma)*, reared.
4 Californian Quails *(Lophortyx californica)*, reared.
July 1. 1 African Palm Dove *(Turtur senegalensis)*, reared.
1 Barred Dove *(Geopelia striata)*, reared.
1 Buckley's Ground Dove *(Chamæpelia buckleyi)*, reared.
July 25. 1 Common Pheasant *(Phasianus colchicus)*, dark variety, reared.
2 Red Jungle Fowl *(Gallus gallus)*, reared.
1 Hybrid Common and Burmese Peafowl (*Pavo cristatus* × *P. muticus*), reared.
June 3. 4 Gold Pheasants *(Chrysolophus pictus)*, reared.
6 Silver Pheasants (*Gennæus nycthemerus*), reared.
1 Lineated Kaleege Pheasant *(Gennæus lineatus)*, reared.
2 North-American Turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*), reared.
May 28. 18 Hybrid Sonnerat's and Red Jungle Fowl, 10 ♂ 8 ♀, *(Gallus sonnerati × G. gallus × G. gallus)*, reared.
Dec. 17. 3 Hybrid Sonnerat's and Red Jungle Fowl *(Gallus sonnerati × G. gallus ♀)*, not reared.
Aug. 27. 18 Hybrid Sonnerat's and Red Jungle Fowl *(Gallus sonnerati × G. gallus × G. sonnerati ♀)*, reared.
June 27. 2 Glaucous Gulls *(Larus glaucus)*, killed by other gulls.

Birds purchased, received in exchange, deposited, or presented during the years 1915 to 1919 inclusive. That is species *new* to the Society's collection.

Erithacus akahige. Japanese Robin
Hab. Japan,

Copsychus amœnus. Javan Dial Bird.
Hab. Java.

Pericrocotus roseus. Rosy Minivet.
Hab. India.

Ixulus flavicollis. Yellow-collared Ixulus.
Hab. Himalayas.

Pterorhinus davidi. Père David's Babbler.
Hab. N. China.

Dumetia hyperythra. Rufous-bellied Babbler.
Hab. India.

Enneoctonus erythronotus. Rufous-backed Shrike.
Hab. India.

Ægithina viridissima. Green Iora.
Hab. India.

Chalcomitra amethystina. Greater Amethyst Sunbird.
Hab. S. Africa.

Arachnothera magna. Larger Striated Spider-Hunter.
Hab. Himalayas.

Nectarinia kilimensis. Kilimanjaro Sunbird.
Hab. Uganda.

Cinnyris afer. Greater Double-collared Sunbird.
Hab. S. Africa.

Cinnyris mariquensis. Mariqua Sunbird.
Hab. S. Africa.

Rhamphocœlus icteronotus. Yellow-rumped Tanager.
Hab. Ecuador.

Spermestes nigriceps. Chesnut-backed Finch.
Hab. E. Africa.

Lagonosticta niveiguttata. Peters's Spotted Finch.
Hab. E. Africa.

Phonipara marchei. Jamaica Grass-Finch.
Hab. Jamaica.

Rhodospiza obsoleta (Licht.). Pink-winged Rose-Finch.
Hab. Central Asia.

Sturnus sinensis. Chinese Starling.
Hab. China.

Schlegelia wilsoni. Wilson's Bird of Paradise.
Hab. Waigiou.

Eucichla cyanura. Blue-tailed Pitta.
Hab. Java.

Grisella harrisi. Harris's Owl.
Hab. Ecuador.

Tigrisoma salmoni. Salmon's Tiger Bittern.
Hab. Ecuador.

Comatibis eremita. Red-cheeked Ibis.
Hab. Birijik, Upper Euphrates.

Nesopelia galapagoensis (Gould). Galapagan Dove.
Hab. Hood Island, Galapagos Group.

Chamæpelia buckleyi. Buckley's Ground Dove.
Hab. Ecuador.

Phlogænas rufigula. Rufous-crowned Ground Dove.
Hab. Waigiou.

Neocrex erythrops. Red-faced Crake.
Hab. Venezuela.

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Book Notices and Reviews.

A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK OF BRITISH BIRDS:

By various authors, edited by H. F. Witherby, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., with numerous half-tone and coloured illustrations. In 11 parts, price 4s. each. London: Witherby and Co., 326, High Holborn, W.C., 1.

Parts VII. and VIII. issued under one cover. These two parts complete the first vol. and the Order PASSERES. The following genera are dealt with: *Turdus* (continued), *Monticola*, *Œnanthe*, *Saxicola*, *Phoenicurus*, *Luscinia*, *Erithacus*, *Prunella* (*Accentor*), *Troglodytes*, *Cinclus*, *Hirundo*, and *Riparia*. There are three beautiful half-tone plates (1) Figuring juvenile Mistle and Song-Thrushes, Blackbird, Ring Ouzel, and Dipper. (2) Juvenile Wheatear, Whinchat, Stonechat, Redstart, Nightingale, and Robin. (3) Juvenile Common Wren, St. Kilda Wren, Shetland Wren, Black-bellied Dipper, Brtish Dipper, and Irish Dipper; also numerous text figures, full indices and title page.

Vol. I. is thus completed and forms the most complete manual on British Birds yet issued. While for practical arrangement and ease of reference it stands alone.

THE BUZZARD AT HOME: By Arthur Brook, with 12 plates from photographs, in stiff paper cover, price 3s. 6d. net. London: Witherby and Co., 326, High Holborn, W.C., 1.

The text comprises the observations of the author during many hours of watching, and is of great interest and value. The very fine half-tone photo reproductions are here first published, their titles are as follows:

PLATE.

(1) Hen Buzzard alighting at Nest.
(2) Hen flying to nest with tuft of mountain grass.
(3) Hen flying to nest with prey in her talous.
(4) The hen preparing to depart from the nest.
(5) The hen brings a frog to the nest.
(6) The cock brings a young wild duck.
(7) The cock bird and the one remaining youngster.
(8) With a fine show of wings the hen alighted at the nest.
(9) The hen buzzard flying to the nest.
(10) The cock bird was enveloped by the hungry youngsters.
(11) The young bird taking a frog from the male bird.
(12) The hen brought a mole, only to find the young bird had left the nest for ever.

We understand that this interesting booklet is the first of a series, to be issued in due course, providing sufficient support is accorded to this first issue. We trust ample support will be forthcoming, so that so valuable and interesting a project may be carried to completion. The photo reproductions, apart from the text, tell the story of the upbringing of the young eloquently.

A beautiful and valuable addition to the literature of our native avifauna.

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Avicultural Experiences.

By R. Suggitt.

There is every prospect of birds being more freely imported in the near future, particularly the Senegal Finches, and, as most of our aviaries are thinly populated we shall be making purchases, therefore, a few experiences may be helpful to some of our inexperienced members.

Take the Waxbills and Ploecine Finches generally, which include the Orange-cheeked, Grey, Golden-breasted, Cordon Bleu, Lavender and Fire Finches; also many of the Weavers and Whydahs, etc., which we could always obtain before the war for a modest amount. The bulk of these birds are shipped from Dakar in the French Senegal, to Marseilles, and from there distributed to London and the various continental cities. I understand that from being shipped at Dakar to, say, reaching London—a matter of a month—they never see any grit, and it it common knowledge that these birds will not long survive without grit in some form.

We purchase some of these birds from a dealer, put them into a cage with food and water, sand or grit on the bottom of the cage, and think all is well. I have done this repeatedly. Now the trouble begins. If we watch these new arrivals we shall find that they first have a good long drink, then attack the grit, of which they will consume a tremendous amount. Their systems are run down, and in very many cases they are in a more or less advanced stage of septic fever, mainly through over crowding, eating fouled seed, and drinking contaminated water. The grit taken in abnormal quantities further irritates the birds, and is the cause of very many deaths, which I am sure, by a long series of experiments can be avoided.

My method (we, of course, may differ in details) is to place new purchases in a cage, the bottom covered with moss, fibre or hay; give them rain water with a few drops of Dineford's magnesia or pinch of Epsom salts (rain water always preferred), a dish of sand, which is left in for a few minutes only; above all, keep them warm. Of course seed easily accessible, is given inside the cage. The grit can be left in the cage longer each day until, say, after a week, I cover the cage bottom with it. The water should be changed very often, as after the birds have had a drink and a feed they usually take a bath, and the fouled water should be removed. Always assume that fresh arrivals from a dealer are suffering from inflammation of the bowels. Treat accordingly and you will not go far wrong, and it is certain you will avoid many vexatious losses.

I cannot do better than quote from my note book on one particular lot. These were privately imported by Mr. Sutcliffe and myself in 1908 from Mexico, on a sailing ship. They were the first and, I believe, the only ones of their kind to reach this country, and from an avicultural point of view very desirable birds:—

DOMINICO OR PARVA FINCH.

Spermophila parva.

Oct. 14th, 1908. The *John* arrived at Grimsby with 32 birds of this species—15 of them black and white, and 17 brown ones. The majority were in very bad feather and health, and one of each kind died on the 16th, and another brown one on the 19th. Porter, the mate, bought them as males and females, but I sent the two which died on the 16th to Mr. W. T. Page, who thought the brown one was also a young male, and this opinion was confirmed by the British Museum Authorities; however, to make sure, Mr. Page had the bodies dissected, and the dissection proved conclusively that both were males. Nearly all the brown ones have buff tips to their wing-coverts, which are said to be lacking in the female. I think there are only two or three which do not possess these buff tips, and as they are so rough in plumage it cannot yet be decided; at any rate twenty of them are males. Many of the black and white ones have traces of immature plumage.

Oct. 21st. The weather is cold, and at nights a little oil stove is lit, because many of them are half naked and shiver when the temperature is below 50 degrees; I have no doubt that several of them will die, many of them sit huddled on the perches and take little interest in anything.

They are quarrelsome with each other, and I have broken them into as small lots as possible. They are said to be fine songsters, and, I believe that this is the first importation of living birds. The mate of the *John* got them from the extreme south of the coast of the Province of Campeachy in the Gulf of Mexico, Oct. 22nd. Two more brown ones are dead this morning, the secondary wing-coverts of both are broadly tipped with buff.

Oct. 23rd. Two black and white and one brown dead this morning. I do not think they are able to husk seed properly so I have soaked to-day's supply.

Oct. 24th. One brown one dead this morning. The others seem to have improved a little since they have had the soaked seed.

Oct. 26th. They continue to die. I think they must have got "Bird Fever."

Nov. 2nd. Only 16 of them are left, but I think most of them will live.

Nov. 5th. Sent one of each kind to Mr. Page on Nov. 2nd. There are still twelve of them left, but we shall probably lose more of them.

Nov. 9th. Only 6 left; they are in the greenhouse, and the hot water pipes are on when the temperature falls below 55 degrees.

Nov. 16th. The remaining six are quite lively in the greenhouse, and I think we shall save them; there remain four black and white and two brown.

Dec. 3rd. We are now left with three, all black and white ones.

Jan. 2nd, 1909. One died on Dec. 31st.

Jan. 23rd. It has now turned out that these finches are not Lineated Finches at all as I first supposed, but *Spermophila parva.* So many of the black and white species of this genus are almost alike that Mr. Page made a mistake in identifying the two rather rough plumaged specimens that I sent him. The B.M. Catalogue states that the hen of *S. parva* has two buff wing-bars, so in all probability the brown ones were really hens. All that remain of the 32 received are two cocks, and Mr. Sutcliffe, who now has them, thinks that these will die.

June 14th, 1909. Four arrived by the *John* yesterday, apparently a male and three females in fair condition.

June 17th. These four appear to be going the same way as the others; one of the hens is very shaky this morning. In desperation I put them into outdoor aviary, and later picked up the cock and one of the hens almost dead, and caged them. They were both dead by evening. This species seems to be too delicate to import by a sailing vessel. Perhaps if they came by steamer a few might survive.

June 19th. Another one died yesterday; the remaining one has an injured wing.

June 21st. The survivor is lively enough—just the one I thought would die first. Although her wing seems to be badly injured she gets about with ease.

June 24th. The remaining one was moping about yesterday, and this morning it is worse. I don't think it will survive the day.

June 26th. The last Parva Finch died to-day.

Now these birds had been given every attention on the voyage, and many of them sang for hours at a time . They had not been over crowded, and were healthy when landed, and the whole disaster was the result of my ignorance. They had been kept in the cabin close to the fire, and the only thing they lacked on the voyage was grit.

I foolishly put them into my then birdroom, a double match-boarded shed, practically without artificial heat. This shed has since been turned into a shelter for an aviary, and my birdroom is now a disused brick stable, heated by hot water pipes.

The *John* is now at the bottom of the Atlantic, and I am very much afraid there is little prospect of getting a further lot of these charming little birds.

> Experience is a hard taskmaster,
> But it teaches like no other.

To be continued.

Editorial.

Post Mortem Examinations: As there has been quite a long break since members had this privilege, we refer further to this matter. The break came owing to the retirement of Mr. H. Gray, who had served as *Hon. Veterinary Surgeon* to F.B.C. for many years, and owing to the years of war we were unable to make other arrangements till recently.

As stated in last issue Dr. N. S. Lucas has consented to act as *Hon. Pathologist* to the F.B.C., and will make free *post mortem* examinations for members, providing they comply with the simple regulations given on page ii. of cover. Reports will be published monthly in this Journal, and, as no fee will be charged in any case, members are specially requested not to ask for reports by post save in cases of urgency.

Nesting Notes: These have always been an interesting feature of the Club Journal, and members are requested to take notes and send in same periodically so that this practical phase may be maintained—it might easily be increased if ALL our members would *fall into line*. Of course, we all prefer to yarn of our successes and to " say nuffin " of our failures and " all buts;" nevertheless it is from the latter, most frequently, that our most valuable experience is gained. ALL should co-operate.

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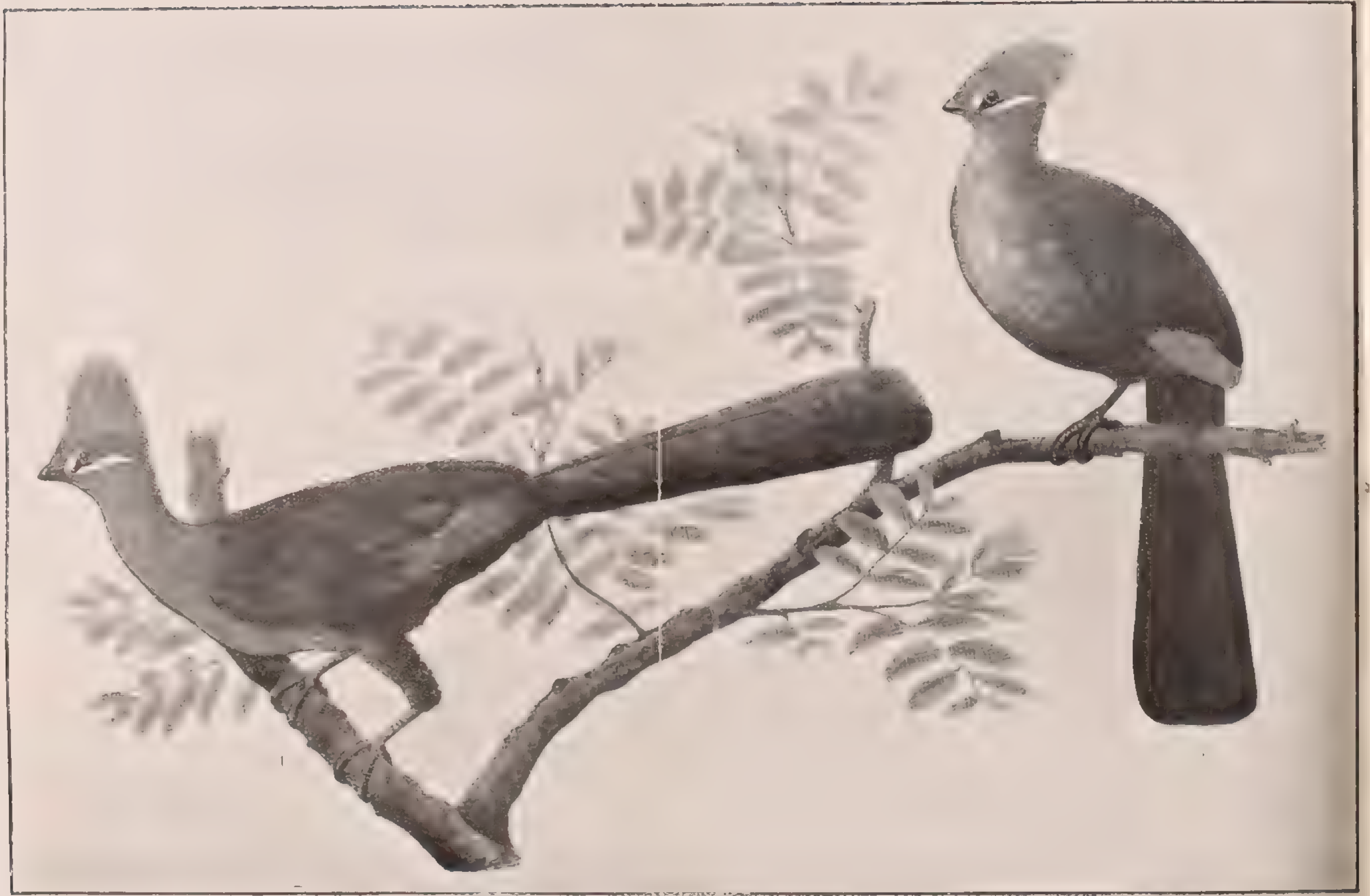
Correspondence.

THE COMING OF THE CUCKOO.

Here (Lingfield, Surrey) reports of having heard the Cuckoo began on March 31st, and from those too well acquainted with the bird to be entirely ignored. This month I have been tied pretty closely to, say a quarter mile radius of centre of the village, and I did not hear the " Harbinger of Spring " till the morning of April 16th, since when it has been heard regularly early in the day, for a short period about noon, and again from early evening till dark, and it is now one of the common avian calls of the country-side. I should add that the reports of the earlier dates came from those whose duties took them across, or lay in, the outlying districts, and the fact that from April 16th (when I first heard it) onward it has been calling almost vociferously, causes one to deduce that it must have been in the district for some days, though unheard by me.

W. T. PAGE.

April 19th, 1920.



ADULT TURACUS PERSA.

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BIRD NOTES:

THE

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

The Successful Breeding of *Turacus persa*.

BY JEAN DELACOUR, M.B.O.U.

The following experiences happened in 1915, 1916, and 1917.

This fine Touraco inhabits the forests of West Africa. It is an arboreal bird, whose size is that of a magpie. I will not enter into details of description, wild-life, etc., as I do not possess any new information.

For its form the illustration will suffice, its colouration being sketchily as follows: Head, neck, breast, and upper abdomen green; back, wing, tail, sides, flanks and ventral region steely purple; flights carmine; two pure white streaks adorn each side of the face, and an erectile crest on the top of the head; bare skin round eyes red.

I wish simply to state here observations which I, as well as my mother, have been able to make on this magnificent bird in captivity.

It was in the spring of 1914 that my colleague, Robert Pauwells, kindly gave me a pair of these birds, which he had kept after the dispersal of his superb collection of Everberge (Belgium). They were brought to me at Villers-Bretonneaux, in the month of May.

These birds had lived for several years in Belgium, where they had never laid eggs.

I installed them in an open-air aviary, length 12 metres breadth 4 metres, planted with shrubs, and having walls on the north, east and west fronts; in the centre of the north wall a shed (glazed) of two metres by one metre formed a shelter. I placed under this shelter a covered box with a hole of about 50 centimetres at the side.

Both birds appeared immediately to take pleasure in their new lodging and frequented the box, where they spent the nights.

At the beginning of June, while visiting them, I found on several blades of hay, rudely disposed, two large round white eggs, almost the size of those of the Golden Pheasant. I was delighted with this discovery, so much the more as the male and female covered assiduously, and at the end of eighteen days I saw hatched two chicks covered with black down. My joy was not of long duration—at the end of eighteen days I found the corpse of one of the young thrown from the nest, and the next day that of the second.

Two days after the female had laid again in the same nest, always very clean, and a second incubation commenced; two young were born the end of July, which were likewise killed and thrown from the nest by the parents.

I then despaired of ever raising these birds, who seemed to have the fault of many of their exotic congeners, which is one of the most serious obstacles to their reproduction in an aviary: the exaggerated ardour of the male which kills the young after one or two weeks, in order to begin again a new nest.

Mobilised since the first of August, I scarcely thought more of the touracos, when my mother, who concerned herself very actively with my birds in my absence, wrote me that a young Touraco was born on the 1st of September, during the German occupation, and its parents were rearing it perfectly this time.

The season advanced, the excessive excitement of the male had passed, and he thought no more of reproducing again.

This young bird lived two and a half months, but it was rickety, its toes were defective, and it died at the beginning of November.

At this time the pair of Touracos had been turned into an aviary having a warmed corridor, where they passed the winter.

At the end of April 1915 my mother had them put back in their aviary in the open air. They did not delay to make their nest in the box. Two young were born in June and were killed rapidly by their parents.

On July 23rd eggs were again laid, and on August 10-12th two more young were born. My mother meant this time to withdraw the young at the end of eight days and to rear them by hand.

She kept a minute watch in order to avoid a massacre, but this time the parents cared for their little ones, and on the 5th of September one of them left the nest and was found perched on the branch of a shrub. It was still young and covered with black down However, the black feathers of the wings were sufficiently developed to allow it to fly. In the evening the young bird was put back into the nest, from whence it came out every morning. The other young one, more feeble, did not come out. It had badly formed toes and died in two months.

Young *Turacus persa.*

The other progressed rapidly and seemed always to be in perfect health. On the 20th of September the tuft (crest) was visible, black feathers little by little replaced the black down and several red feathers appeared on the wings. By the 18th of October its figure attained two thirds of that of the adult; its tuft grew and became green, but its eyes were yet neither white nor red. The red circle of the eye appeared on October 15th. On October 20th it was put into the warmed lobby with its parents, and on the 24th the white streaks appeared near the eyelids. On December 24th it was like the adults; its colours less brilliant, its stature more feeble, its tuft less furnished. At the end of January these differences had disappeared.

The young Touraco commenced to eat alone at the end of September, but its parents continued to care for it assiduously.

It was separated from them in May 1916, when the latter were again put into the open air aviary.

This year the Touracos nested, had a brood in June which were killed by their parents; then a second lot whose hatching took place on the 20th of July. One of the young died at the end of fifteen days; the other is in perfect health; it has developed similarly to the one of the preceding year, and actually is two months old.

The Touracos always receive the same food: potatoes, above all bananas cut into small cubes, with grocer's currants. Never any insects nor animal food whatever, never any other fruits. It is with this small dietary that the parents reared perfectly their young. The parents gorged their little ones, I believe, in the same way as pigeons.

The Touracos are very active and restless; they require space for flying and many branches, among which they perform evolutions with an astonishing agility.

Their cries are of two categories; they have a kind of little gruntling by means of which they seem to confide their impressions, and a manner of cooing or warbling, one very strong and piercing. Male, female, young, all have this same cry which, joined to the complete similitude of form and colour, render very difficult, if not impossible, the distinction of the sexes.

The only reproduction of Touracos which had been obtained up to then is that of Fraser's Touraco *(Turacus macrorhynchus)*, of which Mrs. Johnson reared one young in 1906, in her celebrated aviaries at Burswood, Groombridge (Sussex), to whom the Avicultural Society awarded a silver medal; the only silver medal it had ever bestowed.

In 1916 and 1917 three more young *Turacus persa* were bred—two from the old pair, and one from the young bird reared in 1915 (a hen), mated to an imported cock.

Avicultural Experiences.

By R. Suggitt.

Continued from page 97.

As there are some Nonpareils and Indigos now offered for sale, those of our members who have had no experience with them may gather a few useful hints from my experiences.

Indigo Bunting *(Cyanospiza cyanea).* I received my first Indigo from Luer, London, in June 1904. It died shortly after the moult.

I have found the Indigo Bunting to be even a more difficult subject than its near relative the Nonpareil. In addition to the seed diet a supply of live insects daily is indispensable; without the latter the Indigo will rapidly " go light " and die miserably. The moult is a very critical period.

The male Indigo in breeding plumage is roughly cobalt blue throughout, wings and tail brownish. The female is smaller than the male, and resembles the hen linnet in plumage without the pencillng of the latter. Unlike the male Nonpareil, the Indigo has distinct seasonal changes of plumage. In winter the plumage is brown like that of the female, but tinged with blue.

Staple food: Canary seed, Indian and white millet is also eaten; live insects, such as spiders, plant lice, in addition to mealworms, a little soft food and green food in the shape of flowering grass and chickweed is appreciated.

The song is sweet, but short, and is often sung on warm moonlight nights. The hens of both the Indigo and Nonpareil appear to be much stronger than the cocks.

In June 1907, Mr. Sutcliffe and myself received three true pairs from Mexico. I put one pair into the aviary; Mr. Sutcliffe took one pair and I kept the third pair in my birdroom; the male of the pair I put out (a very fine specimen) proved to be very tyranical with the other birds and I was obliged to remove him and substitute the male out of the birdroom.

This one was peaceable but died soon after his moult. On March 3rd, 1908, I received five more cocks.

I passed the hen, which had been out during 1907, on to Mr. Sutcliffe, and on March 30th, 1908 exchanged the others, On June 14th, 1909, I received fourteen from Mexico; most of them were young birds in juvenile plumage. They were all healthy, but the backs of some of them were almost stripped of feathers; one is in adult plumage (a male).

July 1st, 1909. All fourteen appear to be in fairly good health, they eat a lot of gentles.

Nest of Indigo Bunting—Mr. Suggitt's Aviary.

July 4th. Put four of the Indigo into the aviary this morning, including the male in full colour.

July 12th. I saw one of the brown ones dart into a clump of gooseberry bushes with a piece of hay in her beak. I was surprised, seeing they had only been in the aviary eight days.

The nest was completed and the first egg laid on July 17th; incubation commenced July 18th; the first egg hatched July 30th, making incubation perod twelve days.

The first youngster left the nest on August 13th. The clutch consisted of three pale bluish-white unspotted eggs. All three hatched out, but none of them were fully reared.

The weather was very wet and cold during the time they were nesting, which shows how some individuals will readily nest while others under favourable conditions refuse to do so.

I received twenty-five Indigos from Mexico on August 28th, 1910, and fifteen more on June 1st, 1911; I kept several pairs but none of them attempted to nest.

NONPAREIL BUNTING *(Cyanospiza ciris).* I purchased my first Nonpareil in 1903. He moulted alright in the Autumn. but his vermillion breast faded to orange-yellow. He wintered in the outdoor aviary 1903-4, but, as he probably did not get sufficient insect food, failed in health and was eventually killed by a Red-billed Weaver.

Received another June 1904. He wintered out of doors, but again, like the first one, lost his red breast after the moult. The following summer, he paired with a hen canary, and afterwards with a hen greenfinch, but all the eggs were infertile. He paired with a hen canary in 1906 and 1907 but again the eggs were clear. I caged him during the winter of 1908, giving him two or three mealworms daily. His breast was now deeper in colour.

The Nonpareil is not one of the easiest birds to keep in health and condition. It requires some kind of insect food daily in addition to its ordinary diet of canary and millet seeds. Then in the outdoor aviary in the summer it, of course, gets a lot of flies and other insects, but as there are few insects during the winter it is advisable to cage it and give a few mealworms and as many spiders as possible.

There is no seasonable change of plumage; after the first moult in captivity the male loses his bright vermillion underparts, which moult out orange-yellow. In some individuals the yellow deepens after each successive moult, but probably never regains its original brilliancy—why?

The female is roughly a grass-green bird, underparts tinged with buff. The young resemble the adult female.

I have had twenty-seven Nonpareils all told; in only one instance have they attempted to nest with me, and although a nest was completed no eggs were laid.

Both the Indigo and Nonpareil can be safely wintered without artificial heat; live insects are necessary during the winter months, otherwise they become costive and have fits. My experience is that the hens of both species are more easily kept in health than cocks.

To be continued.

◆

A Retrospect

By W. A. Bainbridge.

(Continued from page 82).

The Jacarini Finch *(Volatinia jacarini)* is my favourite; it is really a little-known bird, although comparatively cheap—very like a slim and glorified Steel Finch, which does not go out of colour, and is about the same size; the hen is a brownish colour, much striated and with a lighter coloured breast.

I always liked these birds; the difficulty was to obtain hens, but when a pair was once obtained the rest was easy. They go to nest readily; a thin cup-shaped affair is built—three or four eggs are laid—generally the former—and the hen is a very tight sitter and is hard to disturb. She never resented my clumsy attempts to repair her nest, which generally had a tendency to fall down. When building they are shy, but when once young are in the nest they are extraordinarily tame—the hen would take spiders from my fingers on occasion, and both birds would come to my feet for small mealworms, on which to rear their young.

The love dance of the male bird is peculiar; he stands on a bough of a tree and suddenly jumps into the air, appearing almost to turn a somersault before he lands where he started from; at the same time he utters his strange little song, not much of a song certainly, but, if it pleased the hen to watch him as much as it did me, he certainly achieved his object.

The young in juvenile plumage are like the hen, but, if born early in the season, the young males soon begin to assume their metallic blue hue.

A second pair that I had were just as prolific as far as eggs went, but they were infertile; thus I suppose that it is safe to assume that they are easy to breed; in any case they are well worth a place in anyone's aviary, particularly if a true pair can be obtained.

Waxbills are favourites too, but were never very prolific breeders with me. The only ones I succeeded in breeding were the Golden-breasted and the Grey; with the latter success I was very pleased as I thought that a medal was coming my way, but at the last moment it was discovered that someone else had bred them first, although the fact had not been announced; still, it gave me lots of fun watching them. I found the Grey Waxbill more hardy than its prettier relation, the St. Helena; I never managed to breed the latter, although I generally had several pairs flitting about my aviaries.

The lovely VIOLET-EARED WAXBILL *(Granatina granatina)* was my favourite, and they were always tame and ready to take mealworms from one's hand. They were the one species that reconciled my wife to the birds, as she never tired of watching them.

Of the Singing Finches I only care for three—the common Grey *(Serinus leucopygius)*, the Yellow-rumped *(S. angolensis)* and the Alario *(Alario alario)*. In each case the male has a glorious song, and it was beautiful to hear the males of the pairs in the different aviaries singing against each other; with the Alario the difficulty is to get a healthy hen or a hen at all. With the first two the difficulty is to get a cock, at least I always found it so, but, when once a true pair is obtained, the Grey, at any rate, breeds well—or did so with me, and I believe that the Yellow-rumped nested but failed to produce young; still it is very like the Grey except for the Yellow-rump, and would probably prove a free breeder in a garden aviary. Personally, I prefer it to the Grey.

I never found any of this trio pugnacious with other species, and I would always trust them till I was proved wrong, which is more than I would do with the Green Singing-Finch.

The ZEBRA FINCH *(Taeniopygia castanotis)* is, according to many people, a free breeding bird; it may be, but I never found it so. Certainly it reared a few young in my aviaries, but the numbers always grew less instead of increasing, as they are not long-lived species.

As a builder of nests it has no equal in zeal, but is certainly untidy; as a layer of eggs it has few equals. One pair deposited over twenty for me in one nest and then got bored with the job, and decided to sit, but as the eggs were two or three deep in the nest the result was not satisfactory; in fact it was a very bad hatch! I believe that finally two were reared, which was, I think, more good luck than good management on their part.

But where the Zebra Finch does excel is building a nest, laying up a few eggs therein, and then deciding that it is quarter day and that they must move, which they do, then come back for the old house, and put it up a yard or so away. Periodically I used to go round and remove the stale eggs and try and tidy up after them.

Despite all this they are nice birds, and I shall have them again. I once had a male with a white head, and I had hopes of breeding a pure albino in time, but as the Irishman said, "he died on me."

To take a rarer species next I think that the Indian White-Eye *(Zosterops palpebrosa)* is about as cheery a little bird as one can wish for. Mr. Page was the first to breed this species, and I believe that I was the second; certainly, with me, they were prolific; each year I would rear one or two; that there were not more was bad luck, as always they had at least two nests—tiny fragile affairs, a description of which has already appeared in " B.N." from a worthier pen than mine, so I will not try to describe them.

Some people may be able to tell a cock from a hen; I cannot, and that is my only objection to them. If they come into the market again, when I have an aviary, I will try and get two pairs and see whether amongst them there is not at least one true pair.

For lovers of birds who want one pair of softbills to complete their aviary I can imagine no more delightful bird than this beautiful wee mite; they are reasonably hardy, and live on milk-sop, fruit, and such insects as they can gather from the trees in the aviary. The nut tree I mentioned previously was a favourite haunt of theirs, and they were generally to be seen, in some precarious attitude, looking for blight on the under side of the leaves.

I once brought a few Australian White-Eyes home with me from Australia, and, in this case it is easy to tell the sexes, but I could not keep them, as my aviaries were full, a few Sunbirds picked up in Africa being given preference, and so with deep regret they had to go. The Sunbirds never attempted to nest, and then I was still more sorry.

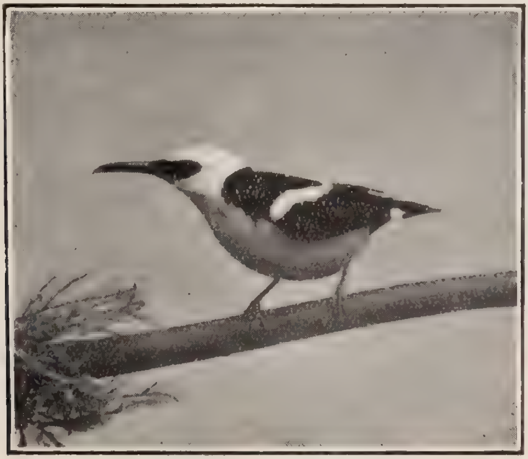


photo G. E. Lowe.

Yellow-winged Sugar Bird.

I once purchased a Yellow-winged Sugarbird *(Coereba* *cyanea)*, well known on the exhibition bench, and put him in the aviary; until that time he had lived on the fat of the land; bread and milk was not good enough for him—no, he must have the milk alone, and he would draw a piece of sponge cake of all its milk and leave it dry. I converted him to a more reasonable diet, at least a Malachite Sunbird did for me; they were in the same aviary, and the Malachite would lie in wait for the Sugarbird, and when the latter came to feed, the Malachite swooped and our small friend fled to the bushes. This went on for some time till the pangs of hunger made themselves felt, and then the Sugarbird decided that if he had not time to sip the milk he had time to grab a piece of sponge cake, which he did.

It was an amusing episode whilst it lasted, and certainly provided me with several days' fun and interest.

To be continued.

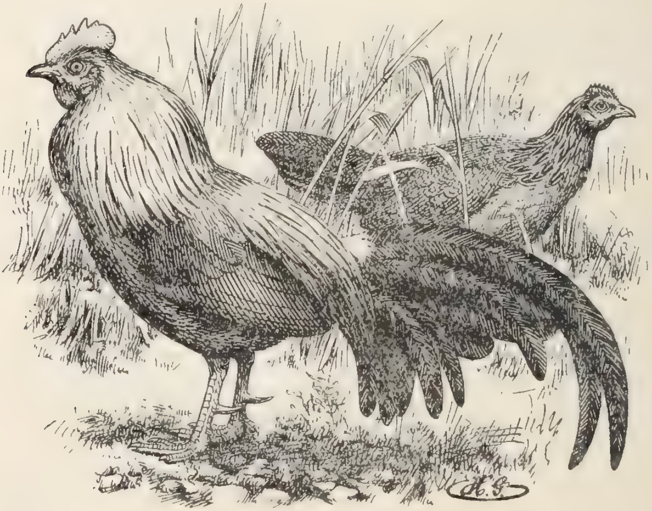
Records of Birds which have Bred in Captivity.

By E. Hopkinson, D.S.O., M.A., M.B.

(Continued from page 79).

For meaning of abbreviations *vide* pages 58-59 (vol. 1).

606.—RED JUNGLE-FOWL. *Gallus gallus.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1906, etc.



Hybrids.
× Red Jungle-fowl (Sonnerat's Jungle-fowl).
× Red Jungle-fowl (Javan Jungle-fowl).

607.—SONNERAT'S JUNGLE-FOWL. *G. sonnerati.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1904, etc.
Hybrids.
SONNERAT'S JUNGLE-FOWL × RED JUNGLE-FOWL.
W.T.P. "Offspring fertile" †Bartlett.
× Sonnerat's Jungle-fowl (Domestic Fowl).

◆

608.—JAVAN JUNGLE-FOWL. *G. varius.*
Hybrids.
JAVAN × RED JUNGLE-FOWL.
W.T.P. Zoo, 1913 (9).

◆

609.—DOMESTIC FOWL HYBRIDS.
DOMESTIC FOWL × SONNERAT'S JUNGLE-FOWL.
Zoo, 1913. (2).
,, ,, × BLACK-BACKED KALIJ-PHEASANT. †Bartlett
,, ,, × GUINEAFOWL. †Bartlett.
× Domestic Fowl (Lyre-bird) ? ?
× Domestic Fowl (Black Grouse).
× Domestic Fowl (Common Pheasant).
× Domestic Fowl (Guineafowl).
× Domestic Fowl (Albert's Curassow).

◆

610.—PEACOCK-PHEASANT. *Polyplectrum chinquis.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1910, etc.

611.—COMMON PEAFOWL. *Pavo cristatus.* **W.T.P.**
Commonly.
Hybrids.
COMMON PEAFOWL × JAVAN. Zoo, 1910.
"WHITE PEACOCK × GUINEAFOWL."
. A specimen in the Tring Museum. See *Ibis*, 1902, p. 530, and photo.
× Common Peafowl (Guineafowl).

◆

612.—BLACK-WINGED PEAFOWL. *P. nigripennis.* **W.T.P.**
Commonly.
Hybrids.
BLACK-WINGED × JAVAN PEAFOWL. W.T.P.

◆

613.—JAVAN PEAFOWL. *P. muticus.* **W.T.P.**

HYBRIDS.
× Javan (Common Peafowl).
× Javan (Black-winged Peafowl).

614.—GUINEAFOWL. *Numida meleagris.* **W.T.P.**
Domesticated.

HYBRIDS.
GUINEAFOWL × DOMESTIC FOWL.
Castle Gant, 1915. See B.N. 1915, 262.
GUINEAFOWL × COMMON PEAFOWL. †Bartlett.
× Guineafowl (Domestic Fowl).
× Guineafowl (Peafowl, White).
× Guineafowl (Common Pheasant).
× Guineafowl (Vulturine Guineafowl).

615.—PUCHERAN'S CRESTED GUINEAFOWL. *Guttera pucherani.* **W.T.P.**

615A.—VULTURINE GUINEAFOWL. *Acryllium vulturinum.*
Parr, 1884. †Renshaw, A.M., 1915, 298.
HYBRIDS.
VULTURINE × COMMON GUINEAFOWL.
†Renshaw. l. c. (? this way. E.H.).

MELEAGRIDAE.

616.—THE TURKEY. *Meleagris gallopavo.*
Domesticated.
HYBRIDS.
× Turkey (Ocellated Turkey).

617.—WILD TURKEY. *M. fera.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1911, etc.

618.—OCELLATED TURKEY. *Agriocharis ocellata.*
HYBRIDS.
OCELLATED TURKEY × COMMON TURKEY.
†Bartlett. "offspring fertile."

ODONTOPHORIDAE.

619.—SCALY QUAIL. *Callipepla squamata.* **W.T.P.**
Trevor Battye, 1905. A.S. Medal. See A.M. l. n.s. iv. 117.

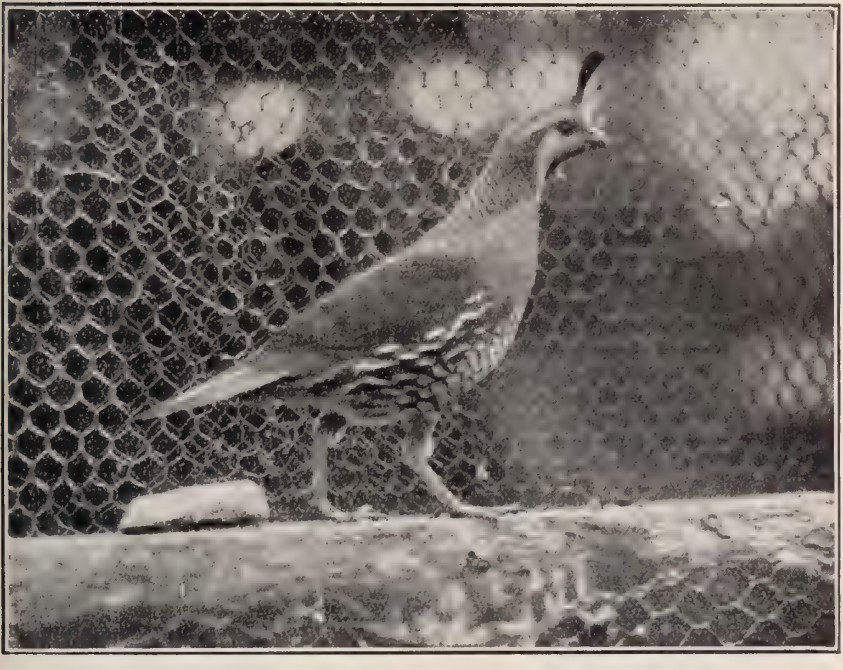


photo W. Shore Baily.

Scaly × Californian Quail.

HYBRIDS.

SCALY QUAIL × CALIFORNIAN QUAIL.
W.T.P. "the hybrids proved fertile," †Page, B.N. 1916, 148.

◆

620.—CALIFORNIAN QUAIL. *Lophortyx californicus.* **W.T.P.**
Commonly.

HYBRIDS.

× Californian Quail (Scaly Quail).
× Californian Quail (Douglas Quail).

◆

621.—DOUGLAS QUAIL. *L. douglasi.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1910, the first time in the Gardens.

HYBRIDS.

DOUGLAS QUAIL × CALIFORNIAN.
Zoo, 1913.

622.—WHITE-FACED CRESTED QUAIL. *Eupsychortyx leucopogon.* **W.T.P.**
Teschemaker, 1910. B.N. 1910, 315.

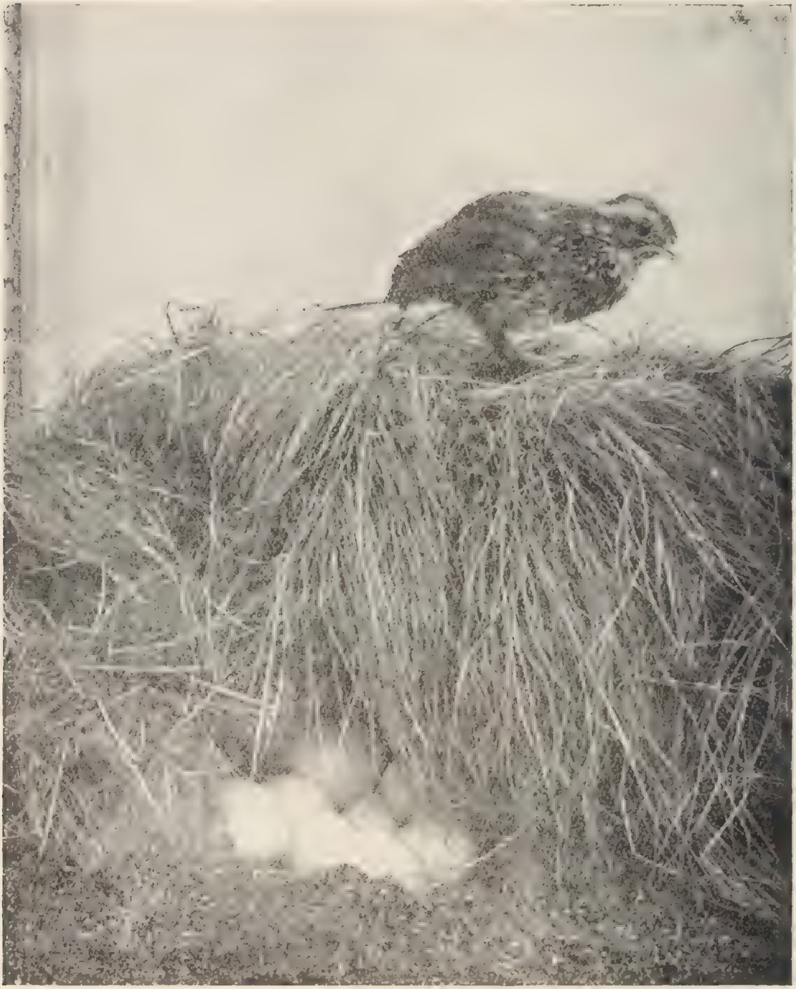


photo W. E. Teschemaker.

White-faced Crested Quail

623.—BLACK-BREASTED COLIN. *Colinus pectoralis.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1910. First time in the Gardens.

TURNICIDAE.

624.—INDIAN BUTTON QUAIL. *Turnix tanki.* **W.T.P.**
1st Seth Smith, 1903. A.S. Medal. See A.M. n.s. i.

625.—**VARIED BUTTON QUAIL**. *T. varia.* **W.T.P.**
1st Seth Smith, 1905, A.S. Medal. A.M. n.s. iii. 295.

◆

PTEROCLIDIDAE.

626.—**GREATER PIN-TAILED SAND-GROUSE**. *Pteroclidurus alchatus* **W.T.P.**

◆

627.—**LESSER PIN-TAILED SAND-GROUSE**. *P. exustus.* **W.T.P.**
1st St. Quintin. A.S. Medal, 1904. See A.M. n.s. iii. 64.

To be concluded.

◆

Editorial.

Nesting Notes.—Very few records are in up to the present, but though the spring has been a mild one, it has been too unsettled to be a favourable one for aviary birds:

Capt. Reeve's Aviaries, Leadenham, Lincs.

3 young Red-rump Parrakeets on the wing, strong and vigorous.

2 young Southern Triangular-spotted Pigeons fully fledged in nest box.

T. Hebb's Aviaries, Luton, Beds.

Blue Budgerigars, vigorous young on the wing.

Rosella and Red-rump Parrakeets, and Black-cheeked Lovebirds are incubating clutches of eggs.

W. Shore Baily's Aviaries, Westbury, Wilts

Orchard Finches and Red-headed Finches have young.

Red-collared Whydahs, and Red-billed Larks incubating.

H. E. Bright's Aviaries, Woolton, Liverpool.

Pope and Green Cardinals have completed nests.

Blue Jays have also constructed a nest.

Diamond, and Cape Doves nesting.

Masked, and Long-tailed Grassfinches, and Diamond Sparrows also nesting.

Obituary: We regret to announce the death of the Hon. and Rev. Canon Dutton, Dr. Lovell-Keays, and T. Jordan—full notice in next issue.

Rare British Birds.

Reprinted from *The Times*, with our thanks and apologies to the Editors and Author.—Editor B.N.—Cutting per Rev. G. H. Raynor, M.A

WATCHERS AT WORK.

(From a Correspondent).

On the western edge of England, looking straight across towards Newfoundland, is a great green-topped hill or promontory rising from the sea and curiously hooked out from the mainland, with which it is connected chiefly by causeway and boat. Its sharply descending rocky face is the nesting-place of peregrine and raven; about its edge, white in season with the flowers of the rare white rock-rose, the rock-pipit soars and parachutes; the goldfinch, linnet, and other small birds play and sing among the gorse and bramble, the lark rises from the grass; the sandy flat at its foot is one of the chief breeding-places of the beautiful shelduck.

There are few more delightful haunts of the birds, and only in summer does the tripper trouble it. A few years ago it was infested by collectors birds were fast decreasing, some of those now breeding were wholly unknown there. The change is fair proof of the value of setting apart legally protected areas or sanctuaries, and of the necessity for having such areas watched and guarded with the vigilance displayed here by the watchers of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

In 1894 Mr. W. H. Hudson calculated that some 30 species of wild birds had either become extinct in England or were almost past hope. Not merely because of the draining and cultivation of land, to which popular theory generally attributes a bird's disappearance, but through the ignorance, stupidity, and cupidity of man. The man is the gamekeeper, the man with the gun, or the collector; and the greattst of the three is unquestionably the collector.

The kite, once London's scavenger, is reduced to a few pairs on the Welsh borderland, who would have followed bustard and crane into the land of have-beens but for night and day protection. The bearded tit depends for safety on the keepers of the Norfolk Broads. The Dartford warbler that elusive sprite of the furze, has long been tracked to destruction so far as collectors could discover its haunts, and in recent years these haunts have many of them been swept over—with what results it is as yet impossible fully to tell—by the all-obliterating military camp. The harmless and handsome honey-buzzard has disappeared since the days when the New Forest was scoured for its eggs at any price. The hen and marsh harriers, the bittern, the spoonbill, and the avocet are practically lost to us, though the boom of the bittern has been heard again in Broadland.

Happily a considerable number of infrequent, rare, or decreasing species have been taken in hand, and happily taken in time, by the society, which maintains a staff of watchers on breeding grounds in various parts of England, Wales, and Scotland. Not the least interesting, perhaps, is the handsome chough, whose scarlet beak and legs distinguish him from all the rest of the corvine tribe. He was at one time fairly common in inland districts; now a few pairs on a rocky coast alone survive, naturally haunting Cornwall, the land of King Arthur, whose soul is said to have passed into one of these princely birds. There is also in Cornwall a window from where it is possible to behold the buzzard, a bird once deplored as doomed, but now doing so well that it may yet deserve its name as "common," and often identified as an "eagle" by Lakeland visitors. Ravens, another fine species driven from inland haunts and from all the old "raven trees" of the country by persecution, are returning to Southern England, where two or three pairs hung on in constant jeopardy; and their sable coats and hoarse deep croak, renowned in legend and superstition, are to be met with on Brean Down, in the Isle of Wight, in Cornwall, and elsewhere, as well as farther north. It is especially encouraging to find that a pair, no doubt a result of protection on Brean Down, have returned to a long-abandoned resting place among the towering Cheddar cliffs.

Another exceptionally interesting bird is the dainty phalarope, Ruskin's "Arctic fairy," which breeds in the main far up in Arctic latitudes, but has a few British-born children every year in the Shetlands. Every device of the collector is put forth to obtain the eggs of these birds, and of their cousins the Kentish plover, now to be found only on one stony reach of Kent and Sussex, where also the Norfolk plover and two or three species of tern nest. Placed within easy reach of London, this area, protected by law and watched by the society, would otherwise be at the mercy of collectors.

◆

Correspondence.

SPRING MIGRANTS IN ESSEX.

January, February and March were all exceptionally mild in this part of the kingdom, and the last two of these months proved to be abnormally dry, so I was on the look-out for unusually early arrivals of the migrants. But such was not to be the case, owing, I imagine, to the cheerlessness of April. This month produced only five rainless days, and a total rainfall of 3.41 inches against an average of 1.36. The thermometer certainly kept fairly high, but naturally under the circumstances there was hardly any sunshine. The Wryneck arrived at Danbury on March 17th, some three weeks earlier than usual. After this I observed no fresh species till 11 a.m. on April 11th, when in balmy weather I saw several Tree-pipits, and admired their cheerful song, and also heard the cuckoo calling twice. The next visitor was the Chiff-Chaff at 4 p.m. on the 15th, weather very stormy, but far from cold. I noticed a pair of Swallows on the 17th—a medium date, and Swifts at Danbury on the 30th, although they are not due till the first or second week in May. The earliest date I ever heard the Nightingale was on April 12th, 1901; this year it didn't come till the 23rd and, owing to unfavourable weather, was by no means vocal for several days afterwards. I noticed the Lesser White-throat on the 25th, nine days earlier than ever before, and the Greater White-throat on the 29th. On that day I also saw and heard the Blackcap and its rapturous song. It was late in its arrival, for I have several earlier records, the earliest being on April 14th, 1914. A Flycatcher reached Danbury on May 1st, about a week earlier than usual, though it came on May 4th in 1917.

I ought, perhaps, to say that I don't profess to record the earliest possible dates of all these birds in this neighbourhood, as I don't go about enough for this. But, as one gets older, one looks forward more and more eagerly to the coming of these charming visitors, and there is no doubt that records extending over a series of years in the same nenghbourhood are of considerable scientific value. We cannot, however, all aspire to equal the record in this matter of the Gurney family in Norfolk, who for 106 years kept a list of the earliest appearances of the Cuckoo, the earliest being on April 9th, 1752, and the latest on May 7th, 1767, the mean of the 106 years being April 23rd.

Hazeleigh Rectory, Maldon, Essex, 5/v./20. G. H. RAYNOR, M.A.

THE COMING OF THE CUCKOO, ETC.

SIR,—I was interested in the note of the *Coming of the Cuckoo.*

It is one of my trials that, through defective hearing, I cannot hear the cuckoo's note, and yet can quite easily distinguish the songs of other birds.

Cuckoos seem very abundant this year in this district, and I have seen many feeding on the ground, what on I do not know.

There seems to be a lot of mystery attached to the cuckoo as regards its eggs. My friend Mr. Hart, of the Museum, Christchurch, Hants., has an unique collection of cuckoo's eggs, taken from nests of nearly all its insectivorous hosts. They invariably mimic the clutch with which they were laid, though naturally, of course, differing in size. Mr. Hart holds two theories :

(1) That cuckoos reared by, say, a hedge-sparrow, always deposit their eggs in a hedge-sparrow's nest, and so on.

(2) That, as the season progresses, so do cuckoos lay their eggs indiscriminately in the later nests of all suitable species.

If the latter theory be correct, one marvels at the total change of colouration in the eggs from the same bird! This is rather badly put, but, I think it will express my meaning.

In this district we are in a direct line with one of the great migratory routes, and all the migrants are daily arriving in increasing numbers; many, no doubt, to pass on North, to make room for later arrivals. All the warblers are well in evidence. Swallows are inspecting last year's nesting sites. I have seen many swifts, but no martin as yet. The woods are alive with song, but, as yet I have not heard the Nightingale! though I expect she is here. Funny how a nightingale is always spoken of as " she!"

Langton Matravers, Dorset. 3/v./1920. W. EDMUNDS.

THE COMING OF THE NIGHTINGALE.

The Nightingale was first reported as singing in this district on April 10th, and I have heard one from my bedroom window singing nightly for the past three weeks, and I still do so. Most of the migrants I have seen; they are now settled and nesting or prospecting, mostly the former.

Lingfield, Surrey, 8/v./20. W. T. PAGE.

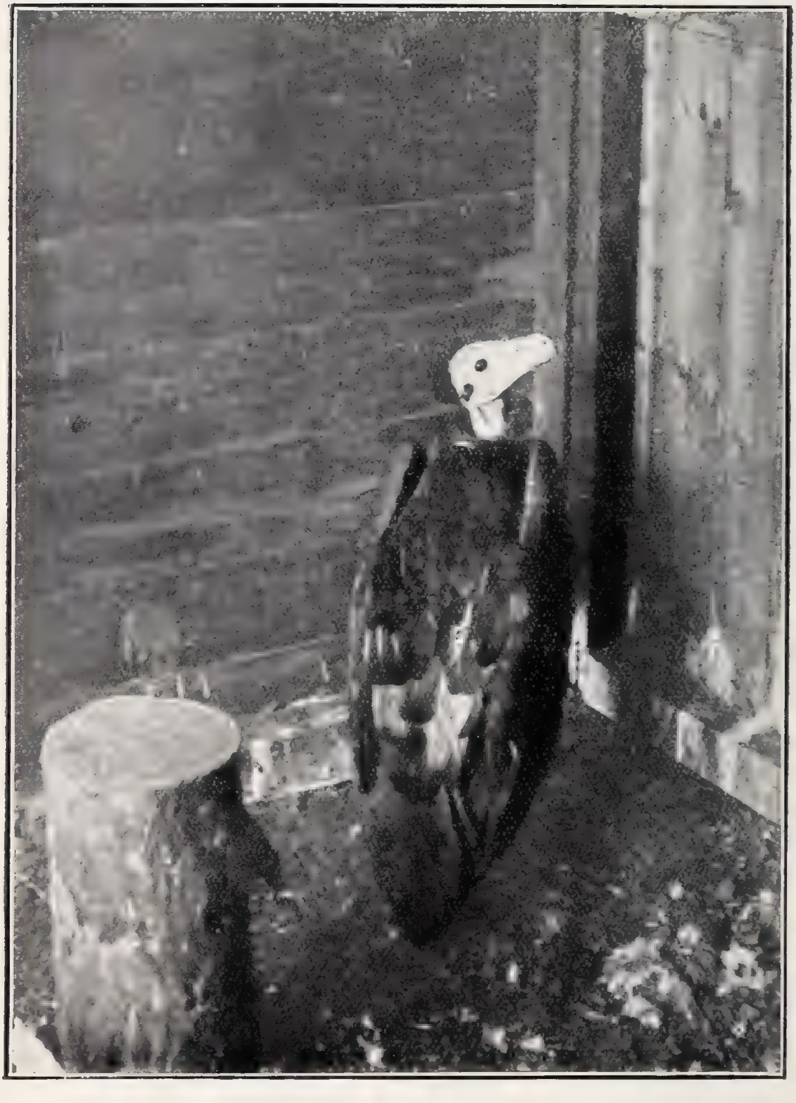


Photo E. O. Page.

The Pondichery Vulture *(Otogyps calvus).*

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BIRD NOTES:

THE

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

Two Vultures.

By WESLEY T. PAGE, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

Among the birds sent me by my friend and fellow member Mr. E. W. Harper, were two species of Vulture, viz: The Pondicherry (*Otogyps calvus*), and the White-backed (*Pseudogyps bengalensis*).

I was particularly pleased to receive them, as they form part of a group of birds which I had not kept in captivity and though they were not to stay permanently with me, I was very pleased and greatly interested to have them under observation even if only for a few months, as hitherto, my acquaintance with such had been confined to noting them at the London Zoo.

There arrived alive four Pondicherrys and one White-backed; one of the former died a few weeks after arrival; all the others did well. They were birds of the year when shipped, and are not yet fully in adult plumage.

To some, as regards form and feeding, the *Vulturidae* stand for all that is hideous and repulsive; this certainly is not the case with the writer—regarding the two species under consideration at any rate, though it may be applicable to some of the species. They have some nobility of form, and their plumage is the reverse of despicable, and only hunger will drive them to feed upon the mere filthy garbage some of the species gorge upon. This is not only so in their native haunts, but also in captivity.

In this Journal for May, 1918, page 107, Mr. Harper gave a short account of Vultures near Calcutta, illustrated by two photo-reproductions, one of which is reprinted herewith. His notes were as follows:

" I am enclosing two snapshots I took a few weeks ago of vultures,
" about five miles outside Calcutta. The place is where all dead domestic
" animals are taken. The bodies of horses and cattle are, after being
" skinned, converted into manure in a factory erected for the purpose;
" while those of dogs and cats are thrown away. It is upon these that
" the vultures feed. At the time of my visit there must have been between
" two and three hundred of these revolting birds—in fact there were so
" many that they could not be all got into the picture at once."

" In the photo the bird nearest the camera is a King or Pondichery
" Vulture, and another of this species is a little way behind it; but all the
" rest are White-backed Vultures. Not far away from the vultures are
" Pariah Kites, one or two pairs of Brahminy Kites, Crows, and a single
" pair of Adjutant Storks are to be seen."

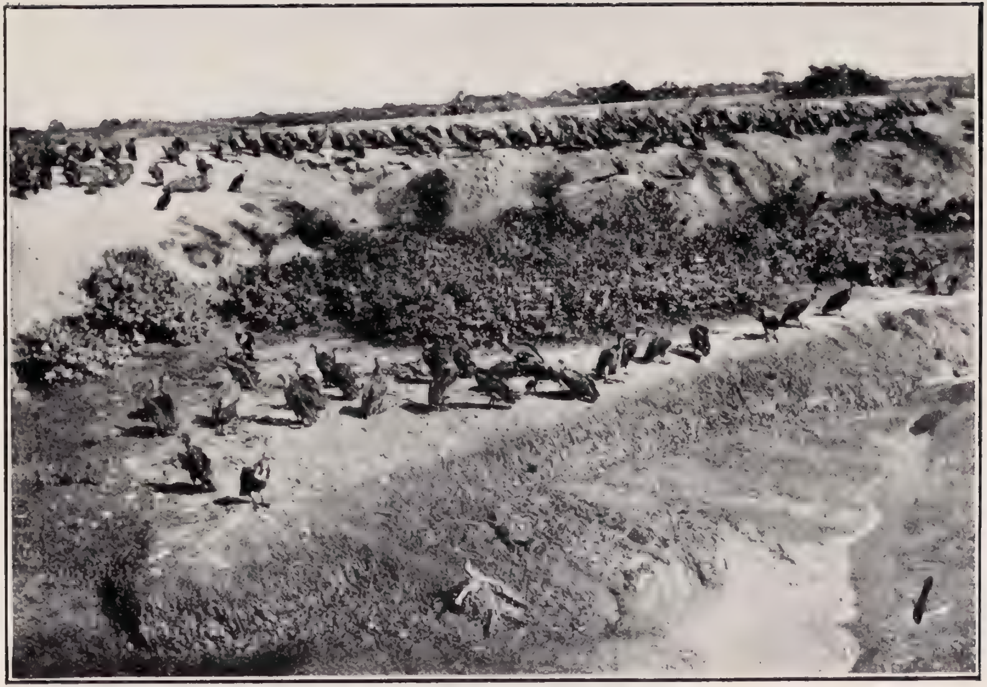
In " Glimpses of Indian Birds " Mr. D. Dewar gives the following account of the two species:

" WHITE-BACKED VULTURE (*Pseudogyps bengalensis*). This is not a
" bad-looking bird in its solemn lugubrious way. Its genedal colour is
" ashy-black—the black of a threadbare coat. Its back is white, but this
" is usually entirely hidden by the dark wings, and shows merely as a streak
" of white along the middle of the back. The dark grey head and neck are
" almost devoid of feathers, and their nakedness is accentuated bf a ruff or
" collar of whitish feathers. The bareness of the head makes the large
" hooked beak look longer and bigger than it really is. The bird is
" nearly a yard long."

" PONDICHERY VULTURE (*Otogyps calvus*). A yet finer bird. The
" back and ways are glossy black, relieved by white patches on the thighs.
" Its bare head and neck are yellowish-red, and there is a wattle of this
" colour on each side of the head. This bulture, unlike the last species,
" is solitary, and is called the " King Vulture " because when it comes
" to a carcase, all the vulgar herd of smaller vultures, kites and crows,
" give way before it, and, as a rule, are afraid to approach until this regal
" bird has had its fill."

" Vultures build huge structures of nests high up in lofty trees, and
" like sand martins, rear their young in the winter."

A few days after their arrival I erected temporary quarters, each enclosure being lofty and some 8ft. x 6ft., in a large shed, and turned into them the three Pondicherrys, placing the White backed in a vacant harness-room. They came through the winter well and are now fine specimens, though not as yet fully developed.



Vultures Near Calcutta.

They have been fed on butcher's offal, rabbits, rats and anything of that character procurable, and, as I have already stated, have to be really hungry before they will eat mere garbage.

They show to best advantage when standing erect or alert upon a block of stone or wood, or when flapping their huge wings, which span some six to eight feet—when so seen, to the writer at any rate, they are neither repulsive nor hideous.

My brother has taken several photos of the Pondicherry, two of which illustrate these notes. The quarters of the White-backed are not sufficiently well lighted to give a good picture of a moving restless creature. They attempt no interference with me; one of the Pondicherrys allows itself to be handled, when entering their enclosures to supply their needs. They have been with me about seven months. One of them has passed into the possession of the London Zoo, and the others are to go to the New York Zoo in the near future, where, being young birds they should enjoy a long life in roomier quarters than I could accord them.

◆

Records of Birds which have Bred in Captivity.

By E. Hopkinson, D.S.O., M.A., M.B.

For meaning of abbreviations *vide* pages 58-59 (vol. 1).

(*Continued from page 115*).

628.—GLOBOSE CURASSOW. *Crax globicera*. **W.T.P.**
Zoo. 1910.
Hybrids.
GLOBOSE × HECK'S CURASSOW.
W.T.P. Zoo, 1906.

◆

629.—HECK'S CURASSOW. *C. hecki*. **W.T.P.**
Hybrids.
× Heck's (Globose Curassow).

◆

630.—ALBERT'S CURASSOW. *C. alberti*.
Hybrids.
ALBERT'S CURASSOW × DOMESTIC FOWL. †Vale.

631.—LESSER GREY-HEADED GUAN. *Ortalis vetula.*

Suggitt, 1914. See B.N. 1915, 28.

In the *Ibis* 1902, 228, W. Goodfellow says of *Ortalis guttata,* " They cross readily with fowls, and for this reason the whites keep them on the Maranon."

◆

MEGAPODIDAE.

632.—BRUSH TURKEY. *Catheturus lathami.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1902, etc.

◆

TINAMIDAE.

633.—TATAUPA TINAMOU. *Crypturus tataupa.* **W.T.P.**
1st Seth Smith, 1904, A.S. Medal. See A.M. n.s. ii. 285.

◆

634.—RUFOUS TINAMOU. *Rhynchotus rufescens.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1912.

◆

635.—PARTRIDGE TINAMOU. *Nothoprocta perdicaria.* **W.T.P.**
But see A.M. 1909, 52. The birds reported as *perdicaria* were later dound to be *maculosa.*

◆

636.—SPOTTED TINAMOU. *Nothura maculosa.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1888. See A.M. 1909, 53.

◆

CRACIDAE.

637.—MARTINETA TINAMOU. *Calopezus elegans.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo, 1912.

◆

RATITAE.

638.—EMU. *Dromaeus novae-hollandiae.*
Commonly.

◆

639.—OSTRICH. *Struthio camelus* and *australis.*
Bred for the feathers in S. Africa, Australia, etc.

◆

640.—RHEA. *Rhea americana.* **W.T.P.**
Zoo and elsewhere.

Photo. E. O. Page.

The Pondichery Vulture *(Otogyps calvus)*.

HYBRIDS.

RHEA × DARWIN'S RHEA. W.T.P. Zoo, 1904.

HYBRIDS—see above.

◆

641.—DARWIN'S RHEA. *R. darwini.*

Zoo, 1912.

◆

ADDENDA.

When compiling my "List of Birds which have been bred in confinement," which commenced on p. 57 of the 1918 volume of BIRD NOTES, I overlooked altogether the numerous mentions of the breeding of British Birds in Yarrell, or rather in THE Edition, the 4th of this work, that edited by Alfred Newton (vols. 1 and 2) and Howard Saunders (3 and 4). These records, with the authority of these two great ornithologists behind them, have a very special value, and to repair their omission from the breeding list, I offer the following *collecta* as an addendum to the list for those entries where the details are insufficient or unsatisfactory.

BREEDING RECORDS OF PRITISH BIRDS FROM YARRELL, 4th Ed.

SKYLARK.

Foot-notes, Vol. i. p. 615.

(1) "Mr. W. P. Foster, of Hackney, who was very successful in inducing this bird to breed in confinement, informed the Author that during the period of producing the eggs the female has been heard to sing . . . . "

(2) " . . . . many instances of their breeding in confinement are recorded . . . . "

◆

NIGHTINGALE.

Foot-note, Vol. i. p. 314 (sent to B.N. 20. 6 18).

◆

WOOD PIGEON.

Vol. iii. p. 3. Mr. R. Gray knew of only one instance of a Wood Pigeon breeding in confinement.

"This was a female, ... which . . . . paired with a bachelor Domestic Pigeon in a dovecote in the town of Cumnock. The pair had eggs three times, although only one young bird was reared . . . . The late Mr. Thomas Allis . . . . and the late Earl of Derby, at Knowsley, were successful in inducing this species to breed in captivity."

(NOTE.—The Cumnock hybrid referred to above can hardly have been said to have bred in captivity, any more than those which now nest in the London Parks. The two later references however seem to mean success in actual confinement.—E.H.).

◆

PEREGRINE.

A reference to a partial success on p. 64 of Vol. i.

◆

EAGLE-OWL.

" . . . . has bred in confinement at Arundel Castle, and elsewhere. Mr. Edward Fountaine . . . . has for some years kept many Eagle Owls at Easton . . . . the majority having been bred in his aviaries, and as some of them were hatched from eggs laid by birds bred by him, he may be considered to have in some degree, domesticated the species." Y. i. 171.

◆

LITTLE OWL.

On p. 179 of Vol. i. an incomplete success is recorded.

◆

SNOWY OWL.

ii. p. 192. Ditto.

◆

RED GROUSE.

Vol. iii. 78.

" The Red Grouse will live and breed in confinement." Several instances are given. but in none is it definitely stated that the young survived any length of time.

1, " it has been known to breed in the menageries of the Duchess of Portland . . . . "

2. " At Mr. Grierson's, ... in 1802, a brace of Grouse, which had been kept for three years. HATCHED a brood of young ones."

3. 1809. Routledge : eggs which were not hatched.

4. " In 1811. a pair . . . . bred in the aviary at Knowsley ; . eight young ; but these did not live many days."

5. " In 1866 a brood was hatched in the jail at Omagh, and other instances are on record."

◆

BLACK GROUSE, CAPERCAILLIE and other Grouse hybrids.

Many records under their respective heads, but all presumably refer to wild-bred hybrids.

On page 56 of Vol. i. we read, however, that " the Capercaillie in confinement will breed with other species." A hybrid between a male Capercaillie and a barn-door hen bred at Braemar is mentioned.

PHEASANT.

Vol. i. 101. A number of hybrids mentioned. Pheasant and Domestic Fowl (" usually called a Pero "), Pheasant and Silver Pheasant, Pheasant and Golden Pheasant, and others.

RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE.

" has been known to breed in confinement, and hybrids between it and the Grey Partridge are on record."
(the latter presumably wild-bred—E.H.).

GREAT BUSTARD.

The nearest approach to success known to the Editor of the third volume is mentioned on page 212—one young was HATCHED, 1860.

WHOOPER SWAN.

The Author saw 10 or 12 Whoopers in London, which " were shortly afterwards sent to Petworth, where, it is said, they produced young." . . . . At the . . . . Zoological Society a pair of Whoopers bred on one of the islands in the summer of 1839 . . . .

" Cuvier gives full particulars of the hybrid offspring . . of a male Whooper " (and) " a female domestic Goose." Y. iv. 311.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE.

" In June. 1843, a pair in the Gardens of the Zoological Society brought forth their brood from one of the islands, ... and showed great anxiety for the safety of their young . . . This species has also produced a brood by union with the Bernacle Goose, and one of the hybrids was presented to the Gardens in 1844 by Lord Derby." Y. iv. 262.

EGYPTIAN GOOSE.

They " rear their young very freely in confinement." Y. iv. 302.

The following Hybrids are also here mentioned.

" Penguin Drake " (a var. of the Domestic Duck) × Egyptian Goose. 1838. Zoo.

" Knobbed or Swan Gander (*A. cygnoides*)" × Egyptian Goose, at the Dublin Zoo.

Spur-winged Gander × Egyptian Goose.

WIGEON.

" do not breed very freely in confinement, and Mr. P. L. Sclater only cites three instances of broods having been hatched in the Zoological Gardens. Mr. Cecil Smith has been rather more successful, his birds having bred regularly since 1872. (Zool. 1881 p. 448). Y. iv. 401.

The following hybrids are mentioned:

WIGEON × PINTAIL (in two successive seasons by Lord Stanley) Y. iv. 383 and 401.

WIGEON × COMMON DUCK. iv. 401.

PINTAIL.

Hybrids mentioned in Yarrell.

PINTAIL × COMMON DUCK. 1831. Y. iv. 383.

PINTAIL × a female of the above hybrid.

× Pintail (Wigeon) Y. iv. 383.

× Pintail (Mallard) " not uncommon." Y. iv. 383.

ROSY-BILLED DUCK × RED-CRESTED POCHARD. W.T.P.

This entry is probably based on the following extract from the P.Z.S. 1880. p. 524, given on p. 410 of vol. iv. of Yarrell. (In the Zoological Gardens).

" in 1879 five curious hybrids were produced, ... apparently the result of a cross between the (Red-crested Pochard) and the . . . . Rosy-billed Duck *Metopiana peposaca* . . . ."

GOLDEN-EYE.

Y. iv. 439. An apparent Hybrid between a male Golden-eye and a female Smew mentioned; also one between the Golden-eye and the American Wood-Duck.

I have also collected the following additions or corrections from recent numbers of BIRD NOTES.

Add p. 60. 1918. No. 1, after " × MEXICAN ROSEFINCH "

GREENFINCH × SIBERIAN ROSEFINCH, see B.N. 1916. pp. 206, 256, and inset, 1917, 22, 31. *Teste* Tomlinson, B.N. 1918, 123.

Add p. 60, 1918:

61A.—SIBERIAN ROSE-FINCH (*Carpodacus erythrinus*).

HYBRIDS.

× Siberian Rose-finch (Greenfinch).

No. 90. p. 156, 1918.

Delete, " A recent account . . . . 239. ' and " × Red collared Whydah, Crimson-crowned Bishop," and

Add (after " HYBRIDS ")

RED-COLLARED WHYDAH × YELLOW-BACKED WHYDAH

Shore Baily (1st) 1915. See B.N. 1918, 233.
Add (same page) after White-winged Whydah

91A.—YELLOW-BACKED WHYDAH (*Penthetriopsis macroura*).

HYBRIDS.

× Yellow-backed Whydah (Red-collared Whydah).

The entries of the birds to which the two next refer not having yet appeared. I can only give them for future note.

220.—BLACKBIRD-THRUSH HYBRIDS.

For further information, see Crabb, B.N. 1917, 272, and in litt.

BARBARY DOVE × SENEGAL DOVE.

Whitley, see B.N. 1917, 272.

FINIS.

A Retrospect

BY W. A. BAINBRIDGE.

Continued from page 110.

The FIREFINCH *(Lagonosticta minima)* is another bird which has always done well with me; certainly their lives are not long, but I have had them out of doors all the winter without any ill effects, and yet they die when you least expect it!

This was one of the first species to rear young with me and ,although time has faded the details from my mind, I can still recollect my pleasure when I first heard young Firefinches in the nest, and when they flew I was very proud indeed.

If, or perhaps I should say when, I start a finch aviary again, a pair or several pairs will certainly find a place therein.

The DIAMOND SPARROW *(Steganopleura guttata)* is a species of which you will find that one pair breeds well while the next pair merely builds. I, luckily, obtained a breeding pair, and young left the nest in January, and what is more, lived to tell the tale! Finally, by purchase and breeding, I found that I had a few too many, so decided to get rid of a few, but how to sex them I knew not.

I decided to go to a bird dealer in the city and ask his advice; he at once picked out a very fine bird as a cock, and finally we had three certain pairs and a few doubtful. At that point I think it was Mr.Frostick came in, and his advice was asked; he agreed with the previous decision and wanted to purchase the very fine cock which he said was the best he had seen.

I finally agreed, and next morning he was very sorry, as the bird was ill. At lunch it laid an egg, and that was the end of my breeding pairs.

I tried to repurchase it but it had already passed on. A year later I saw it again in the aviaries of our fellow member Dr. Lovell-Keays; it had never bred with him, and, as he said, was not well.

Just before the war I imported a lot, but never succeeded in breeding them again, but the story of that importation will come later.

One more amusing episode came my way. I had a pair which nested often, laid sometimes, but never incubated; at the same time I had a few Bengalese, mostly hens I think, and one pair (?) sat well on a series of unfertile eggs I decided to put a Diamond Sparrow egg under her; it was a success, and when it hatched I began to pat myself on the back. Time passed and it grew apace, but (why is there always a but where foreign birds are concerned?) just when it was ready to leave the nest the Bengalese was inconsiderate enough to die, and of course the Diamond Sparrow did the same.

I never found the Diamond Sparrow a pugnacious species, and is one well worth keeping in an aviary. For one thing he is always in evidence; for another, his love dance is too amusing and absurd for words; and finally you can rely on him raising your hopes of young even if it gets no further.

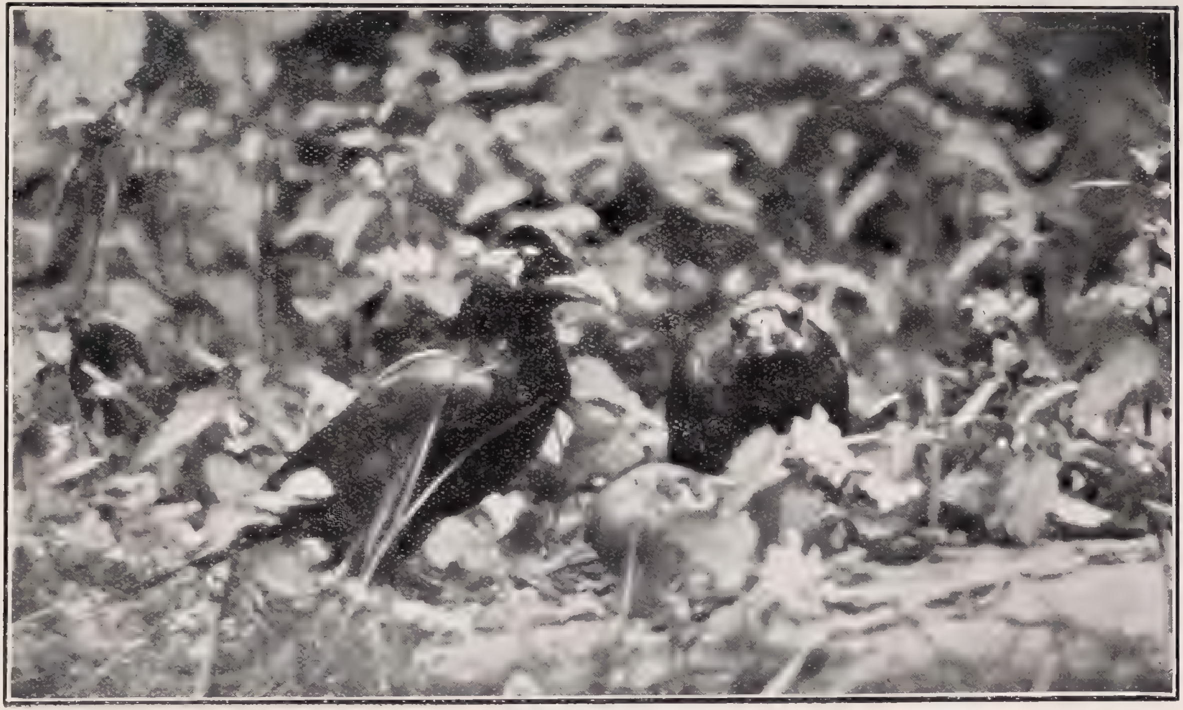


Photo W. Shore Baily.

Singapore Mynahs.

Talking of Bengalese reminds me that they are associated with the only F.B.C. medal I ever obtained. I tried hard to breed Bengalese, with no success, and at the same time and with the same result was doing the same with the Tri-coloured Mannikin, and suddenly they made up their minds to breed, and a Bengalese hen and a Tricolour cock went to nest and reared me several lots of young. I suppose that in gratitude I should have kept the Tricolour until he died of a ripe old age, but candidly Mannikins rather bore me; their main objects in life are sitting still, eating, and occasionally uttering the plaintive song if it can be called song. So one fine day I sold the lot—mother, father, brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, and the other birds had much more room.

To be continued.

◆

The Singapore Mynah.

By W. Shore Baily.

One sunny morning last autumn, being in the East End of London, and having half an hour to spare, I paid a call upon Mr. Hamlyn in the Ratcliffe Highway, to see if he had anything uncommon in the bird line. As it happened he had just received a consignment of live stock from the far East, and amongst this was a crate of Mynahs from Singapore. These birds were altogether larger than any of the Indian Hill Mynahs that I have seen at the Zoo or elsewhere, and would be, I think, *Eulabes javanensis*. They were a healthy lot and looked very handsome with their feathers glistening with wet, their Indian attendant having just given them a bath, evidently by the very simple plan of turning the hose on them. It seemed to me that if a true pair could be picked out, there ought to be a fair chance of getting them to breed if we got a fine summer, so I asked Mrs. Hamlyn to try and select me a pair. In this she was entirely successful, although to the untrained eye there was no difference in the two birds.

On their arrival they were turned into a large outdoor aviary containing some Patagonian Conures and some Pheas ants, Here they soon became at home, and stood the winter very well. In the Spring the male paid a good deal of attention to the hen, and I thought that they were going to take possession of one of my parrot nesting boxes and start a family, but unfortunately the hen became ill and had to be taken indoors. The cock was very much upset by her absence, and called for her continually, and his joy was great when I was able to put them together again. I fed these birds on bread and milk, soaked dog biscuits and fruit—particularly apples, of which they were very fond. Their natural call is a rather pleasing whistle, but they are very good mimics, and will imitate the braying of a donkey, the mewing of a cat, the barking of a dog, etc , and would, I think, make good talkers if kept in a cage. Sad to say my hopes of winning a medal by breeding them have been frustrated, as, during a short holiday at Whitsun, the hen died and the cock is now left a widower.

◆

Nesting Notes, 1920.

By H. E. Bright.

I do not know that I have anything of special interest to record, however much the various items may interest myself, but the Editor is insistent, and, as we all should help, probably these notes, shadowy promises of results to come, may prove of some little use and interest.

Things are not yet in my aviaries as I would wish, as owing to a change of residence, the aviaries are very new and things therein, plant life, fitments, etc., have to develop, and the full accommodation is not yet up—therefore at present I shall not go into details, but briefly tabulate the doings of the birds.

My pairs of African Rock, and Golden-breasted Buntings are both playing about and nesting, I think, but cannot locate them.

There are young Pope Cardinals and Diamond Doves in the nest.

Another pair of Diamond, Masked, 2 pairs Geoffrey's, and Smith's Partridge Doves are all incubating clutches of eggs.

Green-winged Doves, and a Dwarf Turtle paired to a White Java Dove are nesting. The Smith's Partridge Doves have nested almost on the bare earth.

Green Cardinals have a clutch of eggs just about due to hatch.

Rosella Parrakeets have nested and their eggs are about due to hatch, and, I think, the Peach-faced Lovebirds have young in the nest.

My pair of Migratory Thrushes (*Turdus migratorius*) are sitting steadily, and must be all about due to hatch out. The hen is very steady; she sits close, and we walk within a few inches of her many times a day.

I have half-a-dozen Lavender Finches and two or three pairs Cordon Bleus that have been out some weeks now (June 8th), and are in the " pink of condition," in spite of cold nights, and are nesting, as also are Violet-eared Waxbills; Black Seed-Finches are wanting to build or have built.

Indigo Buntings, Blue Grosbeaks, Scarlet Tanagers, and Virginian Cardinals in pairs are all showing signs of nesting; and with Napoleon, and Crimson-crowned Weavers, and Paradise Whydahs make a fine show to watch—the place is full of Weavers' nests already.

One bit of bad luck I have had—I found my hen Blue Jay dead (egg-bound) on the nest. I do not suppose it would have happened if they had been in the larger place I intended to get ready for them.

The New Guinea Mannikins are nesting, and, of course, Zebra Finches. The Fox Sparrows so far show no inclination to go to nest.

My old cock Himalayan Red-headed Bullfinch and an English hen are pairing.

Some few Mannikins, including Mr. Bainbridge's and my own hybrids, are nesting.

Masked, and Long-tailed Grassfinches; Diamond Finches and Sydney Waxbills are all incubating clutches of eggs.

The outlook for the season, therefore, appears good, though doubtless there will be a good percentage of " all-buts " and failures. At any rate there is plenty to interest and charm, both the mind and vision.

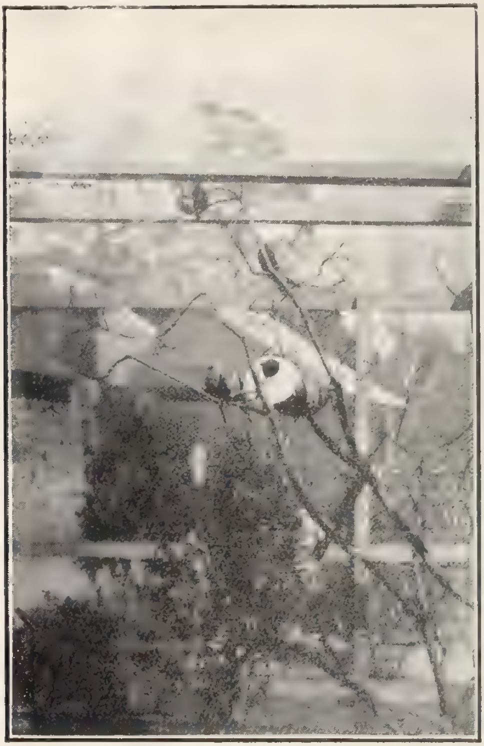
Early Notes.

BY L. PULLAR, F.Z.S.

During the war I was forced to dispose of all my birds owing to the high cost of seed and other causes. As soon as the importation of foreign birds began again, I restarted my favourite hobby.

During last winter my aviaries were overhauled, and I removed several partitions, thus making a large aviary of 36ft. x 24ft. x 7ft., and two smaller ones of 16ft. x 10ft. x 7ft.

In the small aviaries I have a pair of Ring-necked Parrakeets, and a pair of Saffron Finches.



View in Large Aviary.
photo L. Pullar F.Z.S.

The shelter of my large aviary measures 20ft. x 8ft. x 6ft.

Both the shelters and flight are furnished with dead branches, logs, husks, and barrels. There are also a good many spruce and box bushes, which the parrakeets have not damaged at all so far, owing to the fact, I think, that I supply rotten logs for them to whittle.

In this aviary my stock consists of the following pairs:

3	pairs	Green Budgerigars (*Melopsittacus undulatus*).
2	,,	Yellow Budgerigars (*M. undulatus* var. *luteus*).
1	,,	Canary-wing Parrakeets
2	,,	Passerine Parrakeets (*Psittacula passerina*).
1	,,	Peach-faced Lovebirds (*Agapornis roseicollis*).
1	,,	Madagascar Lovebirds (*A. madagascariensis*).
2	,,	Cockateels (*Calopsittacus novae-hollandiae*).
1	,,	Java Sparrows (*Munia oryzivora*).
1	,,	Red-headed Finches (*Amadina erythrocephala*).
1	,,	Taha Weavers (*Pyromelana taha*).
1	,,	Red-billed Weavers (*Quelea quelea*).

Up here (Perthshire) it is safest to take the birds into indoor flights in the winter, as it is usually very damp, the aviary being on clay soil. They are put in the outdoor aviary about the middle of April, and are taken indoors about the end of September.

Most of the birds started nesting within a fortnight of being put out, and I think the season will be a good one

My Peach-faced Lovebirds are in lovely condition and most interesting. They chose a large box with an entrance run, or spout, about 3ft. long. They filled the nest chamber with strips of bark, and the hen laid two eggs. They did not incubate, but later they enlarged the nest and have laid more eggs. This time they are sitting steadily on four eggs. The cock keeps guard at the mouth of the spout.

Both my pairs of Cockateels are incubating clutches of eggs, and I have one pair of Budgerigars with eggs almost due to hatch.

Canary-wing and Passerine Parrakeets are inspecting logs.

The Red-headed Finches started to build the day they were let out of their travelling-box. They have built six nests in three weeks, and laid about eight eggs altogether, but have not attempted to incubate any of them.

I feed my birds on a mixture of millet and canary seed. with millet sprays and sunflower seed. I also give unlimited quantities of chickweed, groundsel, and above all, seeding grass of which they eat great quantities.

I am afraid this yarn will not interest many, as I am only a beginner, but the Hon. Editor wants copy and may find a spare corner for this.

[Master Pullar is our youngest member (being yet in his 'teens) and is also, we think, the youngest Fellow of the Zoological Society.—Ed.]

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An Avicultural Experience—White-eared Bulbuls.

By D. S. Vermilion.

Last summer I purchased a pair of White-eared Bulbuls and put them into my large garden aviary. The birds were at first very wild and extremely nervous, but after a few months became quite tame, even coming on to my hand for mealworms

In March they built a nest in a large Italian cypress, and deposited two eggs therein; after about seven days incubation one of the eggs disappeared and I never knew what became of it. In due course the other egg hatched out, the old birds were assiduous in caring for the youngster, feeding it at every opportunity. Every thing was going well when my supply of meal-worms gave out and I could not procure more. I decided to try maggots and this proved fatal. It had no sooner eaten several of these when it sickened and died, and so I lost my first young bulbul.

The bulbuls about a week later constructed another nest, laid two eggs, and after two weeks incubation hatched out two chicks. In the meantime I had secured a supply of mealworms so that there is no question in my mind, but that their efforts will be crowned with success, and I shall raise bulbuls this time.

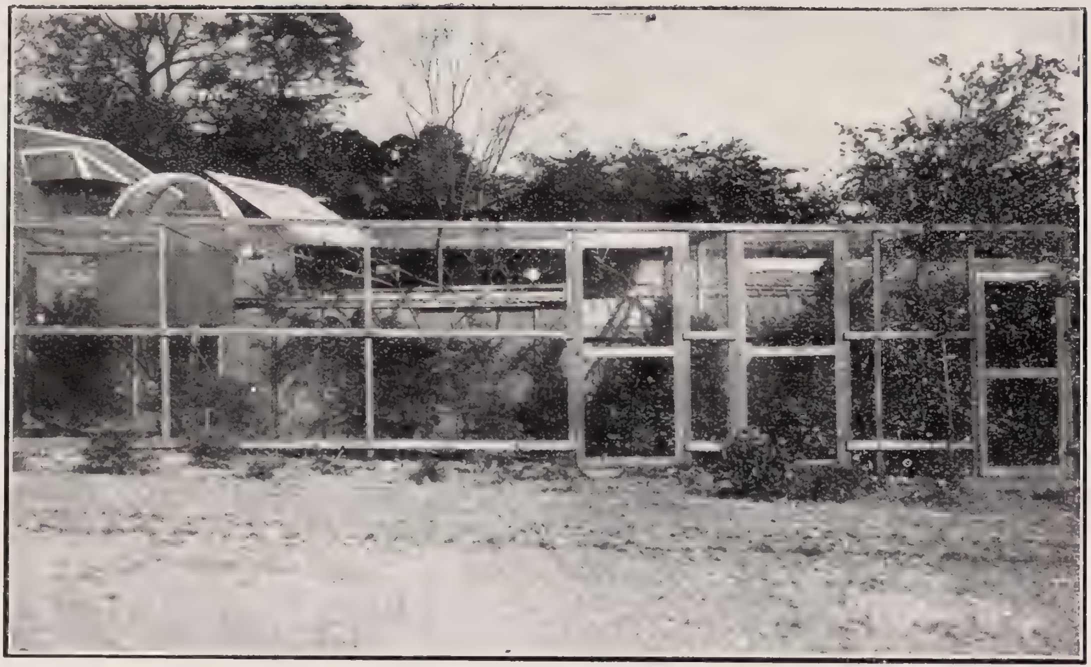


Photo L. Pullar. F.Z.S.

Mr. L. Pullar's Aviaries.

A Few Notes from an Unpretentious Aviary.

By W. W. Smith.

My outdoor aviary is only 12ft. by 5ft., and 7ft. to the peak of the steeply gabled roof, with a half door shutting off the shelter and nearly half the back of the flight boarded. The rest of the flight is wired and the birds get every bit of sun there is, while sheltered from all rain. In it I have at present a pair of Cockateels with three young in their nest-barrel. I also have five Green Budgerigars which are not old enough to nest this year. The budgerigars are quite tame and I frequently have four of them together on my hand or shoulder and even on my head squabbling together over a tuft of flowering grass. But they are also fond of nipping my hand severely, when I have to throw them off. But they are so tame that they only come flying back again and the whole performance goes on till my hands are sore. I attribute this fearlessness to the fact that I had them indoors during the winter, when it was too cold to turn them out ; they were therefore kept for three months in a flight-cage in the dining-room and accustomed to feed from my hand there. The water supply in the aviary is a cement pool in one corner, with a plug and waste pipe into the ground, and on more than one occasion I have seen them bathing in the pool in the sunshine as happily as sparrows in a puddle. It was a very charming picture, these handsome little birds and the splashing water in the sun, and, I think, a rather unusual one as, none that I have had before ever bathed although they loved to roll in wet long grass. They have also another curious habit. The aviary has a floor of coarse gravel and they collect and drop into the pool the largest stones they can carry. I daily have to take out any number up to a full handful. I can only think that they enjoy seeing the splash, as they appear to watch the stone fall before going to fetch another. I find that a variety of food (within reason) suits them best, the staple, of course, being canary-seed, but they also get oats in the husk, rolled oats, and sometimes a few groats. The whole oats are preferred, I give them a free supply of dry grass-mowings removing the uneaten portion each day, also chickweed and groundsel, but the latter is not so much appreciated as grass, especially grass in flower, which is the favourite dainty.

I made a self-feeding seed-hopper some three years ago on the same principle as those now used for feeding poultry. It saves all waste of seed, which is a consideration nowadays, and holds enough to last a fortnight or more, although the husks are blown out every few days. This, with the large water-pool enables me, if necessary to leave the birds alone for a week at a time which is a distinct advantage to a busy man in the winter time.

I may add that the shelter is entirely boarded in except for a space of about two feet above the half-door. This gives them a free flight the whole length of the building and, at the same time they have full protection from all winds or draught up in the deep gable of the roof. Perches are arranged so as not to obstruct the flight. I prefer long hazel wands fixed at the thick end only, running paralell with the front and one long swinging perch at each end of the flight. Of course the shelter is fitted with convenient perches for roosting but I prefer to keep the flight as free as possible.

◆

Tribute.

The Late Hon. and Rev. Canon Dutton:—I would like a tribute to appear, in "B.N.," from the pen of one who was more intimate with him than I was; perhaps the Marquis of Tavistock will oblige! We met and corresponded with each other sufficiently often to be acquainted with each other's views on aviculture. He was never intolerant, nor yet dogmatic, yet ready with pen and voice to tell of his experiences with the family *Psittaci*, of which I suppose during his long life (nine-tenths of a century) he had kept more species than any other aviculturist of his time. He kept them in cages, aviaries, and also at liberty; so that his experience was not only varied but lengthy. Of late years, with increasing age his pen has been a silent one, but over quite a period his articles and notes were quite a *feature* of the avicultural press and literature of the day. To readers of this Journal, the *A.M.*, and Greene's *Parrots in Captivity* this is merely the repetition of a well known fact. When he visited my small aviaries, then located in the back-garden of a suburban villa, his keenness and interest in bird-life was very apparent, as also was his store of information and practical experience of the Parrot tribe generally; yet his opinion was never forced upon one, but merely courteously stated, and that of others deferentially listened to. In spite of the silence of his pen during later years, his name and work will live long in aviculture. W.T.P.

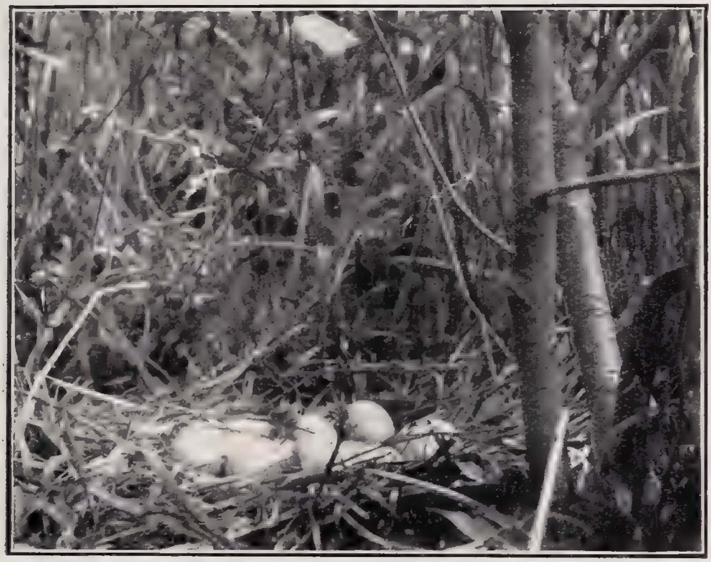
THE LATE DR. L. LOVELL-KEAYS:—Unlike the preceding, my late friend Lovell-Keays can lay no claim to a life long interest in aviculture, and as I was rather intimately associated with this period, I can bear testimony to how thorough it was (a complete obsession) and how thoroughly a keen intellect, trained to observance by his profession, was brought to bear upon the occupants of his aviaries, and how ceaselessly the "cause and effects" of the various episodes and happenings of the occupants of his aviaries was studied and noted—this was to some extent apparent in his writings, but, much alas! will never be revealed. The few years of practical bird-keeping he enjoyed were very successful ones—in a very short period he gathered together 500 or 600 birds, mostly Passerines and Parrakeets and had thirteen aviaries, three of which were quite large. Personal care and study he lavished upon the birds, and consequently he was very successful in breeding many species. The war-cloud appeared and burst, and in due course, 1916 I think, he was called to the colours, becoming a lieutenant in the R.A.M.C., and his aviaries and birds passed into other hands. He was demobbed in 1919 and within a very short time was settled at Guildford, had built an aviary and gathered together again the nucleus of another collection—but it was not to be, those three years of strenuous effort, mental and physical strain with the colours had broken-up a never really robust constitution, and an energetic and useful life was brought to a close on May 14th last, when he passed away at the early age of 44 or 45. To those who knew him well, his zeal, geniality and comradeship, endeared him, and these will keep him in affectionate memory, and long feel the sense of personal loss. Aviculture has lost another of its serious workers, only one of many which the war has claimed, and F.B.C. and its Journal, a valued member and contributor.—W.T.P.

Correspondence.

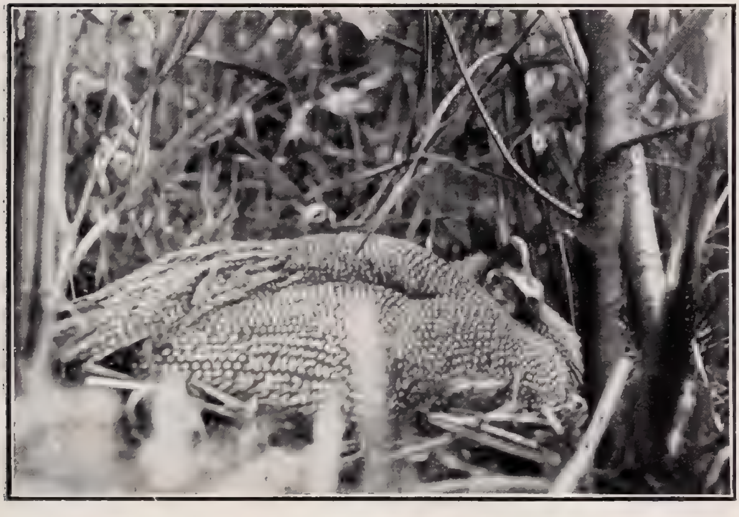
HAVE CUCKOOS THE HOMING INSTINCT ?

Sir,—The recent correspondence on Cuckoos has brought to my mind an incident I intended to bring to your notice. Two years ago, close to the town in which I reside I heard a cuckoo with a most pronouced "cracked voice," I heard it so frequently and its voice was so peculiar that I could have recognised it again anywhere. I did not trouble much about it but put it down to the voice "going out of tune" as it is supposed to do. But I heard it again last year at the same place and this year he has turned up again with the same ludicrous crack in its call. This year I heard it first at the beginning of May so it could not have been the time for the voice to fail. Moreover, the note was so peculiar that I have no doubt whatever it is the same individual bird I have heard each year It would seem from this that Cuckoos return to the same nesting place year after year Perhaps this has been noticed by other members, but I thought it might add a little evidence on the subject.

Ashbourne, Derbyshire. J. H. HENSTOCK.



Nest and eggs of Helmeted Guinea Fowl.



Photos by W. Shore Baily.

Helmeted Guinea Fowl incubating.

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BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

The Helmeted Guinea Fowl.

By W. SHORE BAILY.

Numida cornuta is hardly an aviary bird and it can in fact be kept in much the same way as the domesticated species provided that its wings are cut, and it is more or less accustomed to its surroundings before it is finally given its liberty. It is, however, a much more handsome bird than the common *Galena*. Its head is adorned with a long helmet, about two inches in length, which gives it rather a striking appearance. In South Africa, where there are seven other species, it is in parts very numerous, and it is often kept in captivity. In this country it is uncommon, but it is a more desirable bird than the common species, as it is not so noisy.

When my birds first arrived they were rather wild, and on one occasion when they got out of their enclosure they gave the staff a rare achase, easily coming off winners. The cock, in fact, was seen the next day some miles away, but it eventually found its way bac.k Since then they have got quite tame; the hen especially will feed from the hand, and likes being petted.

The chicks are pretty little things, but are rather delicate. The horn makes very little growth until they are six months old.

Writing of this bird, Mr. Anderson tells us: "that
" this Guinea-fowl is the commonest game bird in Damara
" and Great Mamaqua lands, and that it is very common in
" the lake districts. It is a highly gregarious bird, especially
" during the dry season, when it is not uncommonly found
" in flocks of several hundred individuals; and on one occa-
" sion he saw upwards of a thousand collected in one spot,

"which was one of the prettiest sights he had the good fortune "to witness. These wonderful congregations usually occur "in the neigbourhood of water of small exent, and it is quite "evident that were such a mass of birds to make a simultaneous rush for the precious liquid there would be much "confusion, and comparatively few would be enabled to have "their fill. But on the contrary, they go to work most economically and judiciously, and it is very interesting to watch "the process. The first comers enter the well or hole as the "case may be, and, rapidly and dexterously taking their fill "they make their exit in a different direction, if possible, from "that by which they entered; in the meantime the outsiders "gradually and evenly approach and the ring is steadily "narrowed by a progressive movement of the whole. A "batch of fresh comers never attempt to force their way "amongst those which have previously arrived, but remain "quietly on the outside of the ring until their turn comes. "This Guinea-fowl feeds on grass, seeds, and insects,, but "chiefly on a small bulb, which is also eagerly sought for by "all the gallinaceous birds. They rest during the heat of the "day under some mimosa, resuming their wanderings when "the heat of the day is past."

Their eggs vary considerably from buff to pinkish white, some being finely spotted.

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The Breeding of Blue-Bonnet Parrakeets.

By the Marquis of Tavistock.

Although well known birds in aviculture, the records of the successful breeding of either *Psephotus xanthorrhous* or *P. hæmatorrheus* are rare. In 1917 I had a nice stock of Blue-bonnets, mostly Red-vented, but the transfer of my birds to the Isle of Wight proved disastrous both to Blue-bonnets and Many Colours. A mysterious disease, at first thought to be cerebral hæmorrhage, but in the end identified as a septicaemia, carried off one after another until, in despair, I sent the three survivors—two cocks and a hen—to be cared for by a friend in Gloucestershire. One cock was a fine typical specimen of the handsome northern race, the other and the hen were intermediate between the northern and the common form, having a mixture of red and olive feathers on the wing and red and yellow feathers under the tail; there is, of course, not the slightest justification for treating the Blue-bonnets as two species—even less than exists for separating the Bauer's and Yellow-naped Parrakeets, which show similar intergradation.

The two male Blue-bonnets were very vigorous birds, but the hen seemed less robust, and once or twice has had to be taken indoors in bad weather, showing a sensitiveness to cold very unusual in her race. Although well housed the pair never got beyond inspecting a nest-box and I quite gave them up as non-breeders.

Last winter the three birds were moved to my house in Hampshire: as they were being unpacked the cock of the pair slipped out of the cage, gained his liberty, but evidently preferred captivity to separation from his mate, for, within a few seconds, he was trying to get back to her. He followed her to the aviary intended for the reception of the pair and entered the next one which had the top open for the use of birds at liberty. Seeing that he was obviously a devoted husband I did not trouble to catch him again, deciding to leave him at liberty until the breeding season. The other cock occupied a small flight at a little distance. Everything went smoothly for the next few months; the Blue-bonnet at liberty proved well able to look after himself. He speedily mastered all the other Parrakeets except the Great-bill, even the Banded, who had a vixenish temper and could bite like a rat, proving no match for him. A Sparrow-hawk whose visits to the garden were more regular than welcome never got near him, for he had learned the lesson of self-preservation in a hard school, where Hawks were probably of hourly occurrence and he was off like greased lightning the moment the enemy came in sight. The single cock, who, previous to his neighbour's marriage had shared an aviary with him on friendly terms, was at first anxious to renew acquaintance, but the murderous intent with which the visitor descended on the top of the flight scared him badly until he found out that the wire-netting was a better defence than it looked. Although not a tame bird the Red-vented cock showed intelligent observation, and if the gardener who fed him was late he would fly off to find him and plainly indicate that he expected his water attended to. In March he began to feed his mate through the wire netting, and in April I allowed him to enter the aviary. He showed no regret at the loss of his freedom and at once settled down to domestic life. At first I was afraid there was going to be trouble, as I noticed him driving the hen about as if anxious to kill her, but on watching more closely I realized that it was only fun, for he never bit hard, however furiously he appeared to attack her. Towards the end of April they took possession of a hollow log—and then, in spite of warm damp weather, the morning came when the hen developed the all-too familiar symptoms of egg-binding. This, to a parrakeet-breeder, usually spells complete and permanent disaster; not that you cannot save the hen—that is easy—but a hen, once egg-bound, never sits, and once egg-bound hardly ever lays a full clutch successfully. There was only one thing to be done; we caged the hen in a hot greenhouse and examined the nest, which contained 2 eggs. That evening the third egg arrived and we returned the hen next day. The following morning she was again egg-bound, and this time she seemed so bad that I feared we should lose her. However the fourth egg was laid, and after keeping her in another three days I returned her in the forlorn hope that she would begin to sit. She went into the nest-box but quickly came out again and sat at the entrance wagging her tail; obviously it was no good; she might lay again, but she was not in the least broody. As it was very undesirable to allow her to try and produce more eggs, I removed the log and went to inspect the nest of a Red-rump who might possibly be persuaded to adopt the deserted eggs. I got a ladder, opened the box, and after a lot of gentle poking got the hen off her egg (there was only one); then I added the four Blue-bonnets' eggs and closed the lid, devoutly hoping that the Red-rump was bad at arithmetic. After a few weeks a squeaking proceeded from the box, and it was obvious that the Red-rump had hatched something, though whether it was from her own eggs or not, it was, of course, impossible to tell. Cautious inspection revealed the little mother much puffed out with a fluffy baby leaning against her breast, demanding food. Several unhatched eggs lay scattered about. A fortnight later I again raised the lid of the nest and saw three nice young birds just beginning to feather. This time it was possible to identify them as Blue-bonnets—so the unexpected had really happened. In another week the young birds were fully clothed, but there were only two. The fate of the third remains a mystery and I am inclined to think he was stolen, as the aviary is rat-proof, and not a vestige of the body could be found. A short time afterwards the first baby emerged, to be followed, a few days later, by its companion. Neither could fly for a considerable time--a circumstance which caused much anxiety to the cock Red-rump, who spent great pains in trying to coax his foster children, by easy stages, to the upper branches. He was very devoted to his family, and it was pretty to see him give them caresses and gently nibble their toes. The young Blue-bonnets were quaint-looking little fellows, very slenderly built, with bits of down clinging to the tops of the head feathers, which, after the manner of their kind, they erected whenever they were startled. Their colours resembled those of the old birds, though they were naturally more subdued, the feathers of the wing patch being red and yellowish olive, mixed, as in the mother. They are now strong on the wing and able to fend for themselves.

The odd cock I tried to pair with a hen Pileated and afterwards with a hen Yellow-belly (*P. flaviventris*) but in both cases he proved so vicious and unfriendly that I was obliged to remove and cage him. Obviously he has no use for a mate who is not of his own species. Blue-bonnets are charming birds in many ways, active, amusing, and in a sense, hardy; but they are very susceptible to septicæmia of more than one form and are desperately spiteful in mixed company. The appearance of another Parrakeet by the aviary is a signal for my pair to fling themselves on the wire nearest the intruder and woe betide him if he allows his toes within their reach. A hen Budgerigar, however, who occupied the next enclosure, used to amuse herself by teasing the cock Blue-bonnet through the wire, playfully pecking at him until he was nearly beside himself with rage, and then adding insult to injury by offering to feed him! On the other hand a young Robin which got into the Bluebonnets' aviary was not molested, though this must not be taken as proof that Bluebonnets are safe with Finches and other Passerines.

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A Retrospect

By W. A. Bainbridge.

(*Continued from page 129*).

A VOYAGE TO AUSTRALIA.

Shortly before the war I was ordered a sea voyage for my health and at once thought of Australia and all the birds I could bring back; so Australia it was! On arriving there for a few weeks' stay only, I had to get busy. I arranged with a man to catch me a few hundred of the rarer small softbills, including, I fear, a few species on the prohibited list; as a matter of fact, that did not matter, as the weather either changed or did not change, I forget which, and he never caught me any.

Meanwhile I was upon the Blue Mountains, with a little bird-lime just in case I saw a chance, and, having no call-bird, things were difficult. I finally got over that by turnng over an ants' nest and putting the limed wire near by. I very soon caught a few Scrub Wrens, and they acted as call-birds for more and for a Robin. He acted as call-bird for several more of the same species; and finally a few Honey-eaters, until I had quite a nice little collection of softbills.

I then started purchasing Seed-eaters, and got together several hundreds made up of Diamond Sparrows, Zebra Finches, Long-tailed Grassfinches, Bicheno's, and a few odd Parrot, Ruficauda, and Red-headed Gouldian Finches, also a few rare Parrakeets, including a lovely pair of Hooded, and a bunch of Rosellas to make weight.

In the meanwhile my wife had not been idle and a lovely pair of Leadbeater's Cockatoos and an odd White Cockatoo were added to the list; and last, but not least, a Wallaby came too.

I never see a Wallaby or Kangaroo without thinking of the story of the old lady, who seeing a picture of a Wallaby in a book, read the title underneath, ' Wallaby, a native of Australia.' " Oh dear," said she, " and just to think my daughter went out there and married one of those."

This made " some " collection, and I caged the majority in petrol boxes with small wire over the front. In this wire was a hole, and half a stocking was sewn round this, and through the stocking all food dishes had to be put. The idea was excellent as there was no door for the birds to get out of when I put in the food; when not required, the stocking was knotted. This only failed once, and that was when about fifteen Bichenos' went to sleep in the stocking and a careless opening of it in the morning enabled me to see about twelve at full liberty.

I had always heard that if a small bird once got over the side it could not get back; this is not so, they can and did several times; one perched on the spar holding out the log and finally flew in at a porthole. Finally they were all caught. thanks to a quick hand and previous practice in aviaries.

We touched Tasmania, and Fire-tailed Finches were, of course, searched for, one aviary pair and about 20 others secured and caged in a wicker cage. In four days all were dead and I quite agreed with someone who said that they were difficult to import. I then put a lot of Diamond Sparrows in that cage, and, as they died quickly, I came to the conclusion that the cage was diseased, and threw it overboard.

This was really bad luck, as nearly all the other Diamond Sparrows lived.

All these cages were under the forecastle head and I looked after them myself, aided by my wife weather permitting, and often it didn't, as in my rush to the cages I was often caught by a wave, and anyhow, you feel the motion there.

This menagerie caused vast interest to all the children on board, and the Wallaby loose on its rope was the chief draw.

In case anyone thinks of importing birds, I want to recommend my method of cleaning; I had a small tray in the bottom of each cage and on it blotting paper; this latter was renewed daily and was both efficacious and speedy.

Before leaving Australia, I had cabled to England for mealworms to meet me in Africa. They duly arrived, well packed, but unfortunately, the post office in an excess of zeal had put that box inside another with several other parcels, the whole being made air-tight. Can you imagine the result; I hope not; I don't like to think of it, nor did the post office people.

Still, there I was without mealworms, nor could I get any live insects, and that certainly caused many deaths.

In Africa I picked up some Sunbirds, about three or four species, and a mixed collection of Waxbills and Singing Finches; all these did well.

Finally, we arrived at Liverpool, then London, where we changed stations; the face of the cab driver was worth a fortune to anyone on the stage when he saw the birds' cages with our other luggage, he felt inclined to expostulate I think, but at that moment the Wallaby's cage was hoisted up and he never said a word; perhaps he thought it was a new kind of " pink rat."

One more piece of advice if you are going abroad, don't promise to bring birds back for other people; before I left, I was asked to do so and refused on the grounds that if they died I would have to ask for money for dead birds, with no proof that I had ever bought them, and if they arrived alive I would hate parting with them for a song after looking after them all the time

Finally, I agreed to purchase the rarer Parrakeets, take all the risk and I was to be paid the English price.

Amongst others I bought a pair of Hooded Parrakeets for which I had to give £10 out there. I got them home perfectly and then although they were one of the pairs particularly mentioned, she would not take them—never again!

After this I had a lovely collection in my aviaries, Diamond Doves galore, Bicheno's, Cherry, Gouldian, Parrot, and Zebra Finches; several species of Mannikins; not to mention Malachite Sunbirds and all the other African birds.

I also sold a lot, and actually covered expenses of purchase, so my own birds only cost me my labour.

If I ever go abroad again, I shall once more try my hand, the interest is very great, particularly if you are a good sailor.

Don't rely on getting good soft food, or mealworms abroad; you won't; and take your bird medicines with you and a scent-sprayer to wash the birds with if they won't wash themselves, and some won't.

One curious thing was that, although I asked at every Zoo and every bird shop, I only found one man who knew or had seen the Painted Finch (*Emblema picta*). Painted Finch is the local name for the Gouldian and more than once my hopes were raised only to be dashed to the ground.

In Sydney the easiest birds to procure are Zebras and Diamond Sparrows, then White-eyes, and strangely enough Goldfinches, the catching of which is a very popular pastime.

Talking of Gouldians, I always think that this is the most disappointing bird there is; it is certainly beautiful and fairly hardy and yet it is distinctly on the lethargic side, and by no means a free breeder.

And yet if there was an importation of Australian birds, the Gouldians would be snapped up at once; everyone hopes and secretly believes that they are going to obtain one of the breeding pairs, and yet how few do!

I cannot recollect what happened to my first pair. I have a hazy recollection of young, but it is hazy. I wish I had kept notes, but whether they bred or not, certainly none of the others did, and I have kept heaps of them. I once had about six pairs of aviary-bred and the parents, and yet never bred them. I had at other times several pairs of imported birds, and those I brought back myself.

Every night, wet or fine, they slept out and would not go in, and to try and drive them in merely disturbed them,and resulted in their sleeping on the wires, where they were an easy prey for cats and owls.

The Ruficauda is a bird always ready to go to nest, at least I found it so, and a pair of these gave me one of my first successes. I, however, always found them delicate, particularly the hens.

They are certainly not as striking in colour as the Gouldian Finch, but are well worth including in an aviary, and what is more there seems a reasonable chance of them breeding, and although they do not make the same fuss about it that the Zebra Finches do, I would feel more certain of results from say, three pairs of Ruficauda than I would from three pairs of Zebra Finches.

The Rose Finches were birds I did not like for, although I at one time possessed two distinct species, they never bred and were distinctly shy birds, delighting in getting into the thickest bush and staying there; and again they are large for a mixed series such as mine was.

They retained the pink colour with me when they moulted; at least, all but one did, and he retained part of it; this loss of colour is one of the chief objections to this class of bird.

A pair of Golden-fronted Fruitsuckers is one of the treats I have always promised myself, but up to date I have never got so far as buying them. At the Zoo I always made a point of paying them a visit and leaving my card in the form of a few mealworms. One can't have everything, and Fruitsuckers were one of those that I reserved for a later date.

Another thing I have promised myself is a specially constructed aviary for Whydahs and Weavers. It's going to have a nice big pond or if possible running water, and there are going to be rushes, small and large, willows overhanging the pond, and all those things that Whydahs and Weavers want.

So far my experience has been confined to the Red-billed Weaver, a wonderful and indefatigable nest builder, and the Queen and Paradise Whydah.

The Queen arrived after I had left home for war reasons and I regret that I never saw it.

The Paradise, however, was a much more usual occurence, and the male at least generally inhabited my aviaries, and no bird attracted more attention from visitors than he did when in colour.

He had a regular round, about four perches, and from one of these he would dart to the second, and so on, never still for a moment and always his immense caudal appendage would fly behind, seemingly a reluctant participant in his mad flights.

When, however, he changed into mufti, he would retire into his shell and no longer play the part of Beau Brummel in the aviary; it was as if he was vain and wishes the world to see how beautiful he was; they certainly did, they had no option, he saw to that.

To be continued.

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Breeding of Hybrid Turtle Doves.

By S. Williams, F.Z.S.

Last year, while paying a visit to one of the London bird-shops, I came across a cage containing four Doves. I asked what kind they were, but the man in charge knew nothing save that they were Turtle Doves. Athough I have a fair knowledge of these birds I could not tell either, for they were practically destitute of feathers—I have never seen anything in the adult bird line so nude. I handled them and found they were plump and apparently healthy, so decided to purchase them and see what they proved to be. When I got them home I washed them and turned them into a flight—in a few weeks they had feathered up well. Three proved to be Vinaceous Turtle-Doves, and one the common English Turtle-Dove. The true pair of Vinaceous went to our Editor at Lingfield, and, as luck would have it, the remaining two were also a pair, the cock being *T. vinaceus* and the hen *T. turtur.*

It occurred to me that this would be a nice hybrid to breed, especially so, as after searching breeding records I could not find that it had been reared before. Here, then, was a chance, not only to breed a nice hybrid but also to win a club medal.

Soon after the departure of the pair to Mr. Page, the cock I kept, who had spent most of his time sparring with the other male, commenced paying attention to a hen *T. turtur*, but as far as I could see she did not respond to his wooing; therefore, I was agreeably surprised one day on going into the aviary-shelter to find an egg in a clumsily built nest in some dried bracken. As she, however, laid no more and also sat badly, I did not expect the egg to hatch. After ten days it proved to be infertile. Later on another egg was found broken in the flight. This was all that happened during 1919.

Early this year a nest was built in the same spot and two eggs were deposited therein; both of these were broken after seven days' incubation. Within a fortnight two more eggs were laid, both of which proved to be infertile, and I began to despair of rearing a hybrid and securing a medal.

The Doves, however, thought differently and built again early in May, and two more eggs were laid—this time one was fertile and a squab was duly hatched out. The young hybrid grew very fast, and made its exit from the nest eighteen or nineteen days old, but was not able to fly for several days.

At the time of writing (July 1st) it is entirely on its own and quite strong on the wing. The parents fed it on small poultry corn, which I use for my bantam fowls, with chickweed, groundsel, etc.

The juvenile plumage is very pretty, being a pale shade of its father's plumage, with the margins of the feathers lighter grey, giving it a shell-like appearance; no neck or ear markings like the cock have appeared so far, but may do so after the moult. I hope to get a good photo later.

The old birds are building again, so possibly more may be reared, unless the eggs are again infertile. So far only one out of eight eggs has proved fertile, yet both birds are in excellent health and vigour, and get plenty of exercise in the aviary flight, 20 ft. x 18 ft.

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Where the Crested Grebe Breeds.

BY HARRIET RANSOM.

One of the most interesting spots near London to the lover of wild life is the lake at Wimbledon Park where, within sound of the District trains the Crested Grebe breeds and rears its young, and one can watch these interesting birds in their natural surroundings.

The lake is about twenty-two acres in extent and almost surrounded by low shrubs and bushes, and at the present time there are three or four pairs of Crested Grebe, one pair having a brood of three young ones.

One evening recently, when the lake was absolutely calm. I watched a solitary male which came close enough to the shore for me to see his lovely plumage. The red-brown back and white breast, and the curious wedge-shaped head with its ear-like tufts which can be erected at will, and the bright orange streaks across the face and long beak; the neck looks so slender that one wonders how he can swallow a half pound fish, but the keeper tells me this frequently happens.

It is quite exciting to watch this bird dive and to conjecture where he will rise, and he stays so long under that one fears something has happened, but no, up pops his head some yards away, he bolts his catch, then down he goes again, and at the next rise is a mere speck in the distance.

The young Grebe are slaty-grey in colour, the white breasts alone making it possible to see them on the other side of the lake, swimming and diving with the parent birds where they look like splashes of white on the water.

They nest among the water-lily leaves or in the low bushes, and at the first sign of frost take wing, flying high like wild ducks, and go perhaps to some river where there is no fear of ice-bound waters, or may be to a more congenial clime, but they always return with the spring.

There is a wealth of wild life here: Moorhens swim about or scuttle across the water like living hydroplanes, the trumpet-like call of the Coot is heard on all sides, Ducks rise and circle round, then settle on the water again; a pair of lordly Swans are proudly marshalling a family of six young cygnets and presently the swarms of young fish will make the lake a happy hunting ground for the beautiful Kingfisher—and when winter storms come, hundreds of wild fowl of all kinds will flock to this haven of refuge.

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Various Coloured Budgerigars.

By John W. Marsden, F.Z.S.

In 1918 our member Mrs. Ransom bred a new coloured Budgerigar, which she calls "Jade;" the breast is light green, the markings are mauve, the face yellow, and the tail light blue Last year, our member Mrs. Burgess bred some of the same colour; at present some are rather too yellow, but when the type gets fixed they will be a very handsome variety.

Another new variety is the Lettuce-green—very like the above, but the green is more vivid, and the markings and flights are bluish green; I have only seen one of these birds, which Mrs. Burgess got from France and very kindly sent here for me to see. I sincerely hope she will be able to reproduce this colour.

Mrs. Burgess has also sent a lot of various Olives for me to see. It is very unfortunate that the Olives Mr. Hamlyn received over twelve months ago were in juvenile plumage, and those who saw them there were disappointed with their colour—I was myself. Most of these new varieties are very disappointing until they are adult. The Green-olive in nest feather is practically a common green. The adult pure Olive cock, with deep olive breast, golden-yellow face, vivid blue cere, dark distinct markings, and dark blue tail, is a most handsome bird, and the varieties are many.

Last year I paired a pure Olive cock to a Green Blue-bred hen; the young were very pretty Blue-olives. I suppose the Green-olives are got by pairing a pure Olive with a common Green.

The Dove-olive (of which variety Mrs. Burgess has several pairs) are a charming variety; the softness of their colouring will appeal especially to ladies. There is also the Yellow-olive, and I am looking forward to this breeding season eager to see what the crossing of these Olives with other colours will produce.

Other varieties Mrs. Burgess has sent for me to see are very light Greens with yellow tails, Blues with white tails; one Blue white-tailed hen has patches of white on the shoulders. This makes me think that the much talked of white may appear in the near future.

In common Green, and Green Blue-bred Budgerigars some of the young are very blue in nest feather, and moult out into ordinary Greens; but I have found these the best to breed Blues from; and, from what I have seen of Olives, Jades etc. the nest feather in colour is very dull and ordinary in comparison with the adult plumage, so I hope all our members who breed Budgerigars will keep any young which show the least tendency to freak plumage, until they attain the adult stage.

Dr. Green speaks of an entirely Green Budgerigar, and from what I have seen, I believe that not only an entirely Green but an entirely Blue variety can be produced in time; he also describes a variety he had seen, as follows: "The undulations on the head, back and wings, instead of being grey, "are black; the rump and upper tail-coverts are blue, and "the tail black, as are also the flights; the crown of the head "and the whole of the face are bright yellow, and the neck "and remaining under-parts yellow, very slightly washed "with green."

A dealer in Leeds told me he had seen, in Liverpool years ago, two pairs of Budgerigars, with the breast and under-parts yellow, and the remainder of the plumage as the common Green species. I have been trying to breed these for years and if I live long enough I may do it.

If all breeders will examine all young birds before parting with them, and know from which pair they are bred, we shall soon have a great many varieties. This year I have added a few French Blues to my stock of this variety, and Blue-breds. I have the pedigrees of all my birds, and all are paired up in cages before going into the breeding-aviary; in one way and another I know every pair of birds at sight, and which husk they are using, so I know the pedigree of every young one. I find this the best way of breeding for colour. I have just heard that some bad coloured Jades have been offered for sale in London; the breast is yellowish-green, and the markings light; they are only bad Yellows! Mrs. Ransom and Mrs. Burgess have now got the breasts pure green, and in the best birds, especially in the hens, the markings very dark on a yellow ground—that is, dark-edged yellow feathers on back and wings with dark flight feathers.

I have French Blues of two strains, and I find both rather paler in colour, smaller, and not so strong as my own birds, but I hope crossing them will have good results. I am pairing French Blue with my blue-bred Greens, and not with Blues, hoping to get a better colour.

We have had such bad weather and high winds here my birds are only just commencing to breed in earnest. I have a nest of four from a Jade cock and Blue-olive hen; three are a silvery-blue olive, and one a light green.

I have four aviaries now—one for breeding Blues, one for Olives, one for Jades, and one for Yellow-breasted Greens, and am hoping for some luck.

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A Large Consignment of Indian Birds and Mammals

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

Just at the moment of going to press I had the opportunity of seeing one of the largest consignment of Indian birds and mammals ever landed—many comments of them have appeared thereupon in the daily press, accompanied by many exaggerated and visionary episodes—almost without exception the whole were landed in really fine condition by our member Mr. E. W. Harper, F.Z.S., who, assisted by two Indians, has had the charge of them during a long and tedious voyage of seven weeks. It was very interesting and instructive listening, when, two days ago, Mr. Harper spent a day with me, and recounted many of the almost insuperable difficulties and episodes that had marked the voyage. The consignment is, almost entirely, for the London Zoo, to help fill the many vacancies in their depleted collection, resulting from the years of war. The losses en route have been almost infinitesimal, and the results and conditions of this large, personally superintended, consignment must add greatly to Mr. Harper's already established reputation for skill and experience in the packing and shipping of live-stock. A consignment, however carefully packed and put on board ship, confided to the care of ship's officers is nearly always more or less of a gamble, but, with a personally conducted shipment, such as that just landed, loss and also hardship and suffering for the creatures shipped, is almost entirely eliminated. The writer, and all who have seen the consignment, must congratulate Mr. Harper on the most successful finale to his skill, thoroughness and enterprise.

While, among the birds, there is nothing really rare; there are several species (over forty species of birds are included in the consignment) which are both uncommon and difficult to import. Though the bulk of the consignment goes to the London Zoo there will be many species of birds for sale, and these will be advertised in due course. Below is a list of the species of birds landed alive:—

Pondicherry Vultures.
White-backed Vultures.
White-tailed Sea-Eagles.
Occipital Blue-Pies.
Wandering Tree-Pies.
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo.
Hair-crested Drongo.
Blue-cheeked Barbets.
Green Barbets.
Crow Pheasant.
Black-naped Oriole.
Golden Oriole.
Spotted-Wing.
Yellow-eyed Babbler.
Pied Bush-Chat.
Yellow-cheeked Tit.
Shamas 3 ♂ and 1 ♀.
Blue-headed Rock Thrush.
Black-headed Sibia.
Indian Starlings.
Tickell's Ouzel.
Black-crested Bunting.
Jungle Bush-Quail.
Greater Button-Quail.
Lesser Button-Quail.
Gold-fronted Fruitsucker.
Jungle Babblers.
Collared Jay-Thrushes.
Ceylonese Spur-Fowl.
Hanging Parrakeets.
Purple Coots.
Cattle Egrets.
Chukor Partridge.
Sarus Cranes.
Kulong Crane.
Burmese Pea-fowl.
Brahminy Kite.
Common Kite.
Silver-eared Mesia.
Chinese Dhyal-Birds.
White-eared Bulbuls.
White-cheeked Bulbuls.

In all forty-two species.

Among the mammals are two pairs of Tigers, Civet Cat. several species of Deer, a large Elephant, and Gibbons, Rhesus Monkeys, and many others too numerous to mention.

I had the opportunity, with a few of our members, of looking over the consignment at the Zoo on 17th instant, and we found much to interest and admire.

The Wandering Tree-and Occipital Blue-Pies are a nice lot, in good condition, of course, with tails shortened for transport convenience. The one Blue-headed Rock-Thrush is a beauty, and goes to swell the Zoo collection—a great pity a pair could not be procured!

The Spotted-wing is the rarest bird in the series and is also a solitary specimen.

The Ceylonese Spur-fowl will, I think, be new to the Zoo collection, and is also very rare, if not the first live specimen imported.

The Purple Coots are very handsome and brilliant waterfowl and some of these may be for sale, as also will be some of most of the other species, except, perhaps, those tabulated in the singular.

In conclusion I must again congratulate Mr. Harper on his success—it illustrates once more, as does my own experience of importing foreign birds, the *urgent* need that all consignments be accompanied by an attendant, and this means that, only very large consignments will pay for such huge expenses.

In Memoriam of a Grey Parrot.

In perpetual memory
of
CATTY-ANNE,
The beloved companion of B. Theo Stewart,
who
Fell asleep July 25th, 1919.

Thou was't not made for Death, Immortal bird.

So let her sleep! And we? we wait
For what shall be beyond The Gate,
Where our own loved shall glad our eyes,
We know it—*We* are sure to meet,
But, when the long, long lost we greet,
Say, will there be a fresh surprise?

Editorial.

NESTING NOTES.—But few have come in during the month

In Mr. Bright's aviaries (Liverpool) the following species have young on the wing, in addition to those noted in previous issues:

3 Migratory Thrushes (*Turdus migratorius*), on the wing and another nest full of young.
9 Zebra Finches (*Taeniopygia castanotis*).
Geoffrey's and Diamond Doves fending for themselves.

A small pair of Weavers (*H. luteola*, I think) have young in nest, fully fledged, but have not flown yet.

Black Seed-finches feeding young.

In Capt. Reeve's aviaries (Lincoln) the following young have left the nest, also in addition to those already noted:

1 Southern Triangular Spotted Pigeon.
1 Red-rump Parrakeet.

In the Editor's aviaries the following young have left the nest unless otherwise stated:

3 Stanley Parrakeets *(Platycercus icterotis)*
3 Indian Silverbills *(Aidemosyne malabarica)*
2 Turtle Doves *(Turtur turtur)*
2 Red-Mountain Doves *(Geotrygon montana)*. Still in the nest.

Green Cardinals (*Gubernatrix cristata*). Still in the nest

Mr. Shore Baily's Aviaries:

A pair of Bay-fronted Cowbirds have nested and reared young; this is, we think, the first time this species have reared young—full details will appear in a near issue.

Not a good season; the above, one young Orchard Finch and a few doves comprise the successes to date (July 15)

Members are urged to send in notes of the doings in their aviaries.

BREEDING OF THE SPOTTED FRANCOLIN: Quite an interesting episode has occurred at the London Zoo. We saw, on the 17th inst., in the Western aviary, several chicks and their parents, all doing well, of this rare species. If these live to be independent of their parents, as undoubtedly they will, it will be a first record for this country, we think.

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Post Mortem Reports.

For Rules vide *page ii. of cover.*

YELLOW BUDGERIGAR: Miss Ormsby, Harrogate.—This bird suffered from enteritis and diarrhoea. It appeared to have had access to much greenfood.

SPECIES?: Mrs. Dennis, Wootton, I.W.—Both birds, which I could not identify, had died as the result of injuries to the skull and brain. Probably, during the night, they were frightened and flew up and hit the top of their heads. The larger bird had extensive bruising on the crown of the head and the brain below. The smaller one had haemorrhages at the base of the brain.

N. S. LUCAS, M.B., F.Z.S.

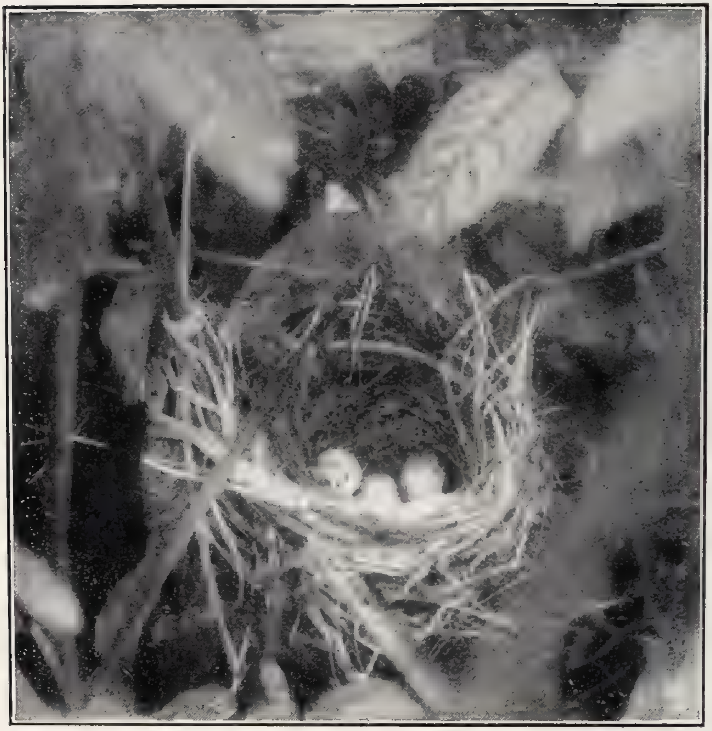

Photo by W. Shore Baily.

Nest and Eggs of *Agelaeus frontalis.*

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BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

The
Breeding of the Bay-fronted Meadow-Starling
(Agelaeus frontalis).

By W. SHORE BAILY.

Early last February I was offered, by Mr. H. E. Rogers of Liverpool, five Chestnut-breasted Cowbirds, three cocks and two hens. On their arrival here I examined them carefully and was quite unable to see any difference in the sexes, and strongly suspected that they were all males.

An enquiry into their country of origin and a reference to my books confirmed this: for although in the closely allied *Agelaeus ruficapillus* from the Argentine the sexes are said to be alike, in Cayenne, the district from which these birds came, the hen of *agalaeus frontalis* is of a dark brown colour, without the bay forehead and throat. However, I decided to keep them on the chance of some hen coming over with a later consignment. On March 18th, Mr. Rogers informed me that he had just received some sooty coloured Starlings from Brazil and was sending on two for my approval. When these arrived I saw at once that I had secured hens for my birds, as they exactly answered to the description of the female in Butler's book. A little later I secured a third hen, and so was able to turn into one of my big aviaries in May five cocks and three hens.

At the end of the month, one pair of the Cowbirds commenced nest building in a spruce fir. The nest was constructed entirely of iris leaves, which were woven into a deep boat-shaped structure. This was lined with mud. Four eggs were laid: white, sparsely spotted with brown and purple. Incubation lasted ten days, from the laying of the fourth egg, but the hen was in the nest more or less after the second egg was laid. The young when hatched were the colour of orange peel, but after five or six days they got much darker. They did very well at first, but, as they got bigger, died off one by one until, after ten days, only one was left. I now began to supply mealworms, which were taken freely. The hen alone fed the young, but the cock was generally close to the nest and was very excited when anyone examined the youngster.

photo W. Shore Baily.

Bay-fronted Cow-bird Feeding Young.

About this time another pair built a nest in a scotch fir. A very beautiful structure, also of closely woven iris leaves and suspended from four hanging tendrils of ivy. A photo is reproduced below, but it is impossible to show the eggs, as the nest was so deep. The eggs in this case were deeper in colour than those in the first nest, and the spots were darker. I removed two of them to a Hedge Sparrow's nest in another aviary. The Sparrow was a voluntary captive, and as she had no mate, she spent much of her time sitting on infertile eggs, so she was glad to incubate something more worthy. In due course she hatched one young bird, which grew apace under her careful feeding, but unfortunately a very heavy thunderstorm drowned it. The parents in the other aviary were more successful, their nest being better sheltered, and their young left the nest after sixteen days, and have since done well. They are in colour like their mother. Dr. Butler thought that these birds would breed on the ground near water, but my birds have built many nests, and always in trees. They go to the pond for nesting material, and to drink, but spend the rest of their time in the trees and bushes in other parts of the aviary.

photo W. Shore Baily.

Nest of *Agelaeus frontalis.*

I expected to find their nests suspended from the stem of the flags in the pond, as was the case with their cousins the Red-winged Blackbird in California. Since writing the above my third hen has gone to nest, and this time in the reeds. The nest was suspended from three stiff stems, and was much similar to the others, but after the mud lining some dried grass was added. Three of the eggs in this nest were buff with chestnut markings, principally at the larger end; the fourth egg was pale blue with black spots. No Oologist would accept this as a true clutch.

I can find no account of the wild life of this bird, but Hudson, writing in "Argentine Ornithology" of *A ruficapillus*, says:

> "The beauty of this bird, and its delicate and plaintive voice would "no doubt make it a favourite with man if he saw more of it, only it lives "and breeds in marshes and does not come near his habitation. The "redheads are gregarious and migratory. The flock can scarcely be "said to break up in the breeding season, as the birds all make their nests "near together in the reeds. The nest is placed about one or two feet "above the water, and is about six inches in depth and made of leaves and "aquatic grasses woven together. The eggs are four, with a white or "pale bluish ground and spotted with black on the larger end. After the "breeding season the birds fly about in flocks of two or three hundred "individuals, and sing in concert on the trees."

I think that this description would very well apply to the subject of my notes.

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Some Notes on Hanging Parrakeets.

By The Marquis of Tavistock.

Last winter, together with some birds from New Guinea, I received three species of hanging parrakeets, Slater's, Ceylon and Blue-crowned. The first-mentioned was an adult male a truly gorgeous little fellow but the rest were immature. All did well for a time, and, I was hoping that they would survive, in agreeable contrast to the lories which dropped off in a most disheartening manner. In this I was disappointed, for the Sclater's contracted a sudden chill and died, followed later by two of the Blue-crowned. I was so disgusted at the fate of the Sclater's that I rather lost interest in that of the rest, as I had never seen a good adult Blue-crowned; my recollections of those I had noticed in shops and at the Zoo were of fluffy little bundles of dull green feathers looking very much like lovebirds. I was therefore very agreeabl surprised at the transformation when I saw the birds some months later. One young male Blue-crowned was still in poor body feather, but an adult pair and the Ceylon were wonderfully improved. The old cock Blue-crowned, indeed, was not very inferior to the departed Sclater's in beauty. The greater part of the plumage is rich green, somewhat paler on the breast and underparts; rump and a round patch on the throat intense crimson; centre of the crown dark blue. shoulders washed with yellowish buff; beak and eye dark. The female lacks the blue crown and red throat patch.

The Ceylon was decidedly less handsome and less elegant in shape; plumage yellowish-green with a small red patch on the throat and rump. I turned the birds this summer into a large outdoor aviary where they have done extremely well, and shown no resentment of the abominable weather which has put budgerigars on the sick list almost daily. They like a varied diet—banana, grapes, sugar and water, canary seed and flowering grass. They spend a good deal of time perching in a normal position, only "hanging" occasionally. Their flight is swift, straight and quail-like, and less buoyant than that of a lovebird. The Ceylon is unsociable and morose but the others keep together except when feeding; they are incline to be cheeky towards larger birds, though not really spiteful. The display of the cocks is very quaint and beautiful; they erect the crimson feathers of the rump and throat till they sparkle like jewels in the sunshine, and run and jump about bowing and turning quickly, at the same time uttering a peculiar hissing noise, not unlike a courting weaver-bird. Their normal notes are a kind of squeaking and twittering.

Hanging-parrakeets, of which there are many species, are certainly desirable objects for aviculture and every effort should be made to import them with proper care. Once their initial delicacy has been overcome they seem hardy enough and the handsomest of the lovebirds look as coarse and plain beside them as a finch is apt to do when compared with a warbler.

An Attempt to Breed Blue-fronted Amazons—A Tragedy.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

In the late spring one of our members kindly presented me with a pair of *Chrysotis aestiva*, which duly arrived in good condition and excellent health.

I prepared for them a small aviary with a flight 12ft. x 10ft. and a shelter 8ft. by 8ft., furnishing same with suitable branches and a barrel for nesting purposes.

On arrival they were duly turned into the aviary, that is their cage was placed in the shelter and the door fastened open; in about fifteen minutes much parrot talk and excitement proclaimed the fact that they had emerged from the small limits of the cage to enjoy the restrained liberty of the aviary, of which it may fairly be said they "took possession."

I was very fortunate, inasmuch as they were a tame pair of birds, and the first time I entered the aviary they flew on to my arm and took food from my fingers; moreover, they allowed me to take their beaks between my fingers and play with them making no attempt to bite or snap, whatever, though they would take my finger in their beak, shake it about and caress same; thus it will readily be understood that I was more than pleased with my new acquisitions—they made a glorious picture in their small aviary, a picture, unfortunately, that did not last; but I must not relate the end of my yarn in the introduction!

Some weeks went by and I noticed them pairing, but had not, so far, seen them take any interest in the nest barrel. Meanwhile their demeanour was delightful, friendly to each other and to myself; in fact they were inseparable, took and did everything together, and were simply gorgeous on the wing, and always came to the aviary front to "pass the time of day" whenever anyone passed the aviary, and, to curtail the yarn they became an obsession with me.

For some weeks still things went on similarly, and then I saw only one or the other slip furtively in the nest-barrel and a sort of satisfied content possessed me; still there were no eggs though I daily peered into the interior of the nest-barrel. One day in late July my "satisfied content" merged in pleasurable excitement, for had I not seen the first egg of a Blue fronted Amazon in a nest-barrel in an English aviary!

Alas! how short was to be my satisfaction and excitement. The egg was not in incubation, mostly one or other of the birds stood over it; at the end of the next day the egg was still solitary. The following morning, when I went in to feed them, the hen came to my hand, fed, and disported about the aviary and was apparently in the pink of condition; no dropped wings or lethargy, but as alert and vivacious as one could wish but the egg was still solitary. After lunch I again went into the aviary and I could only see one bird; the weather was dull but warm, and I could only just make out the hen crouched in the bottom of the nest barrel; tame as they were I hesitated to put my hand into it, but watched closely and could detect no movement; a horrid fear began to possess me. I got a short piece of stick and touched her with same, and as there was no apparent movement when I touched her with the stick, I took any risk there might be and plunged my hand into the barrel and brought her (a cold stiff corpse) out. In the bottom of the barrel was a crushed egg and in her body just visible was an unpassed egg—thus ended my first attempt at breeding the Blue-fronted Amazon.

I shall hope to make another attempt next season if I am able to procure another hen bird.

As there does not appear to be any published account of outward sexual distinctions I will point out such as I have noted.

In the first place my two birds, though equally brilliant, were quite distinct as to the extent of the respective colour areas; in fact the hen was the most brilliant of the two. However, true this was of my pair, it is of no value as a sex distinction, for, as anyone who has examined say a dozen certain males in the mass knows, they vary so in this respect as to make it of no value as a distinction between the sexes, for some have yellow as the predominating colour of the top of head and sides of face, with only a small frontal patch of blue; in others the reverse is the case and blue is the predominating colour, and others are variants between these two.

I also noticed that my hen had a broader band of scarlet on the bend of the wing than had the male, but, only yesterday, I saw a certain male, whose band of scarlet was as extensive as that of my hen; so it is obvious that, as a factor for determining the sexes, we must rule plumage " out of court."

Another distinction I noted was that the cutting edges of the mandible were set at different angles in the male and female, but I wish to examine and compare more pairs before I could say that this distinction was constant.

This brings me to my last point, and one which I think will be a safe guide in determining the sexes of *adult* Blue-fronted Amazons, and possibly of other members of *Chrysotis* as well. In the male the iris of the eye is red on the outer edge, merging into orange as it passes to the inner margin, but both the red and orange are bright hues. In the female the iris is dull brownish guinea-gold (quite dull in comparison with that of the male), with only a very fine margin of reddish-orange on the outer edge.

Here, apparently, we have advanced a stage in the effort to breed *C. aestiva* in our aviaries for, if the above distinction in the colouration of the iris of male and female be constant, we shall, at least, be able to procure with reasonable certainty, true pairs, which will lead to ultimate success for some fortunate aviculturist.

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The Green-backed Trumpeter.

By W. Shore Baily.

Among recent additions to my collection is a pair of Green-backed Trumpeters. I don't know their scientific name, but their description is as follows: *Cock*, about the size of our Coot, but stands two or three inches higher on the legs; general body colour sooty-black, under part of neck and throat violet, the feathers covering the lower part of back and tail, which are very long, white; bill flesh colour with the base primrose; legs bluish-slate. *Hen*, general body colour black; under part of

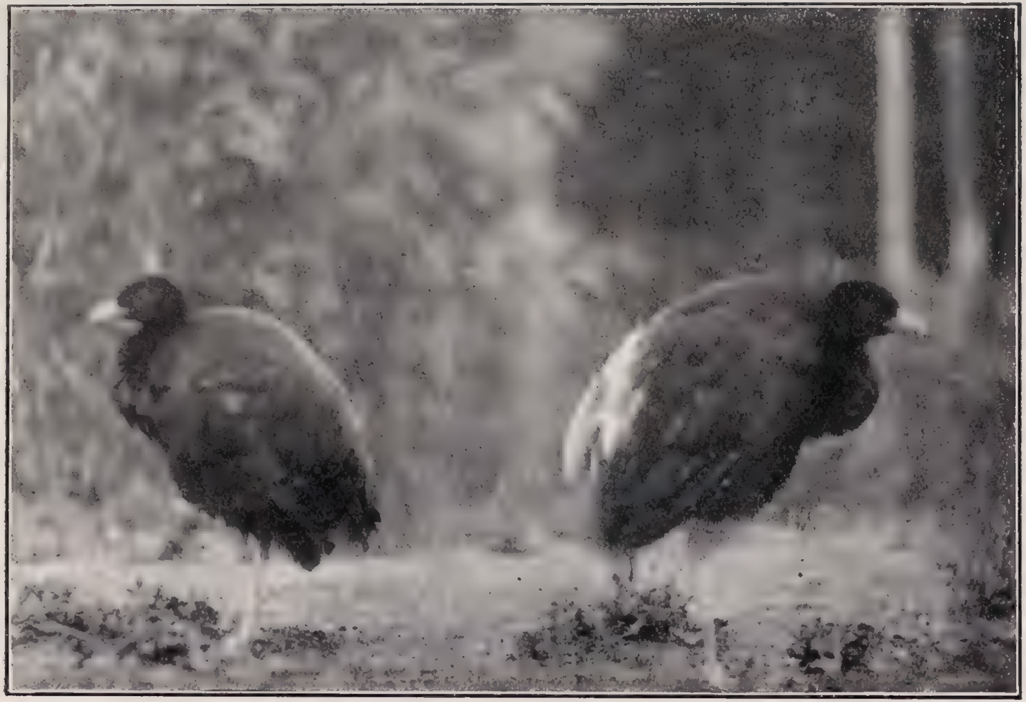

Photo by W. Shore Baily.

Green-backed Trumpeters.

neck, throat and wing coverts irridescent violet; back and tail coverts green; bill flesh colour; legs slate, but duller than in the male. The heads and necks of both birds are covered with very minute feathers that make them look as if they were clothed in velvet. It also feels exactly like velvet or plush when handled

When they arrived I was astounded to see them wade into the pond up to their necks and enjoy a good bath. I expected to find them of something the same nature as Curassows and Guans, which abhor water as much as English game birds, and take their baths in the dust, but these Trumpeters are semi waders, and, although they apparently do not seek their food in water, will enter it freely to retrieve a piece of meat or similar food. They appear to be omnivorous, partaking freely of grain, bread and milk, meat and fruit.

As pets they are charming. They are one of the very few birds that I have owned which actually like being handled. They simply love having their heads smoothed and tickled. When I visit them in the morning they have the peculiar habit of squatting down with their wings spread out as if they were covering chicks, uttering at the same time a low twittering sound; this is sometimes varied by a low grunting or trumpeting, from which, I presume, they get their name. Both my birds have lost an eye, but in spite of this the cock dominates the aviary in which they are kept, although he is by no means quarrelsome. The Scarlet Ibis, if it can approach the hen Trumpeter on her blind side, will occasionally give her a dig with his long bill, but, if the cock spots him at it, he quickly causes him to vamooze.

I can find next to nothing of the wild life of these birds in any of my books, but there appear to be several species, none of which are very common. They are, however, sometimes kept in Brazil with poultry, with which they seem to agree. My birds spend a good deal of their time admiring a troop of young wild Duck in a neighbouring pen, and I am inclined to think that they would make quite good foster-mothers, although I suppose that it is too much to hope that they would undertake housekeeping duties on their own account, in this rotten climate of ours.

One thing I have omitted to mention about them that I have never noticed in any other bird is the possession of an under eyelid, which closes horizontally instead of vertically, as in the outside eyelid. It draws this well over the eye, instead of closing it, whenever its head is being tickled or played with.

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Through the Brazilian Wilderness—Birds.

By Theodore Roosevelt.

[As being of great interest to our readers we have made extracts (with apologies and best thanks to the publishers) from this LIVE book of the parts referring to the avifauna of this area.—Ed. B.N.]

" During the two months before starting from Asuncion, in Paraquay, for our journey into the interior, I was kept so busy that I had scant time to think of natural history. But in a strange land a man who cares for wild birds and beasts always sees and hears something that is new to him and interests him. In the dense tropical wood near Rio Janeiro I heard, in late October—springtime near the southern tropic—the song of many birds that I could not identify. But the most beautiful music was a shy woodland thrush, sombre-coloured, which lived near the ground, but sang high among the branches. At a great distance we could hear the ringing, musical, bell-like note, long drawn and of piercing sweetness, which occurs at intervals in the song; at first I thought this was the song, but when it was possible to approach the singer, I found that these far-sounding notes were scattered through a continuous song of great melody. I never listened to one that impressed me more. In different places in Argentina I heard and saw the Argentine Mocking Bird, which is not very much unlike that of our own, and is also a delightful and remarkable singer. But I never heard the wonderful White-banded Mocking-bird, which is said by Hudson, who knew well the birds of both South America and Europe, to be the songbird of them all.

" Most of the birds I thus noticed while hurriedly passing through the country were, of course, the conspicuous ones. The Spurred Lapwings, big, tame, boldy-marked plover, were everywhere; they were very noisy and active, and both inquisitive and daring, and they have a very curious dance custom. No man need look for them. They will look for him, and when they find him they will fairly yell the discovery to the universe. In the marshes of lower Paraná I saw flocks of Scarlet-headed Blackbirds on the tops of the reeds; the females are as strikingly coloured as the males, and their jet-black bodies and brilliant red heads make it impossible for them to escape observation among their natural surroundings. On the plains I saw flocks of the beautiful Rose-breasted Starlings; unlike the Red-headed Blackbirds, which fairly seemed to court attention, these starlings sought to escape observation by crouching on the ground, so that their red-breasts were hidden. There were Yellow-shouldered Blackbirds in wet places, and Cow Buntings abounded.

" But the most conspicuous birds I saw were members of the family of Tyrant Flycatchers, of which our own King-bird is the most familiar example. This family is very numerously represented in Argentina, both in species and individuals. Some of the species are so striking, both in colour and habits, and in one case also in shape, as to attract the attention of even the unobservant. The least conspicuous and nevertheless very conspicuous, among those that I saw was the bientevido, which is brown above, yellow beneath, with a boldly marked black and white head, and a yellow crest. It is very noisy, is common in the neighbourhood of houses, and builds a big domed nest. It is really a big heavy king-bird, fiercer and more powerful than any northern king-bird. I saw them assail not only the big but the small hawks with fearlessness, driving them in headlong flight. They not only capture insects, but pounce on mice, small frogs, lizards, and little snakes, rob birds' nests of the fledgling young, and catch tadpoles and even small fish.

" Two of the small Tyrants which I observed are like two with which I grew fairly familiar in Texas. The Sissor-tail is common throughout the open country, and the long tail-feathers which seem at times to hamper its flight, attract attention whether the bird is in flight or perched on a tree. It has a habit of occasionally soaring into the air and descending in loops and spirals. The Scarlet Tyrant I saw in the orchards and gardens. The male is a fascinating bird, coal black above, while his crested head and the body beneath are brilliant scarlet. He utters his rapid low voiced musical trill in the air, rising with fluttering wings to a height of a hundred feet, hovering while he sings, and then falling back to earth. The colour of the bird and the character of his performance attract the attention of every observer--bird, beast, or man—within reach of vision.

"The Red-backed Tyrant is utterly unlike any of his kind in the United States, and until I looked him up in Sclater and Hudson's ornithology I never dreamed that he belonged to this family. He for only the male is so brightly coloured is coal-black with a dull red back. I saw these birds on December 1st, near Bariloche, out on the bare Patagonian plains. They behaved like pipits or longspurs, running actively over the ground in the same manner, and showing the same restlessness and the same kind of flight. But whereas pipits are inconspicuous, the Red backs at once attracted attention by the contrast between their bold colouring and the greyish, or yellowish tones of the ground along which they ran. The Silver bill Tyrant, however, is much more conspicuous; I saw it in the same neighbourhood as the Red-back, and also in many other places. The male is jet black, with white bill and wings. He runs about on the ground like a pipit, but also frequently perches on some bush to go through a strange flight-song performance. He perches motionless, bolt upright, and even then his black colouring advertises him for a quarter of a mile round about. But every few minutes he springs up into the air to the height of twenty or thirty feet, the white wings flashing in contrast to the black body, screams and gyrates, and then instantly returns to his former post and resumes his erect pose of waiting. It is hard to imagine a more conspicuous bird than the Silverbill, but the next and last tyrant of which I shall speak possesses on the whole the most advertising colouration of any small bird I have seen in the open country, and, moreover, this advertising colouration exists in both sexes and throughout the year. It is a brilliant white all over, except the long wing quills and the ends of the tail-feathers, which are black. The first one I saw, at a very long distance, I thought must be an albino. It perches on the top of a bush or tree, watching for its prey, and it shines in the sun like a silver mirror. Every hawk, cat, or man must see it; no one can help seeing it.

"These common Argentine birds, most of them of the open country, and all of them with a strikingly advertising colouration, are interesting because of their beauty and habits. They are also interesting because they offer such illuminating examples of the truth that many of the most common and successful birds not merely lack a concealing colouration, but possess a colouration which is in the highest degree revealing. The colouration and the habits of most of these birds are such that every hawk or other foe that can see at all must have its attention attracted to them. Evidently in their cases neither the colouration nor any habit of concealment based on the colouration is a survival factor, and this although they live in a land teeming with bird-eating hawks . . . . Courage, intelligence, adaptibility, prowess, bodily vigour, speed, alertness, ability to hide, ability to build structures which will protect the young while they are helpless, fecundity all, and many more like them, have their several places; and behind all these visible causes there are at work other and often more potent causes of which as yet science can say nothing. Some species owe much to a given attribute which may be wholly lacking in influence on other species; and everyone of the attributes above enumerated is a survival factor in some species, while in others it has no survival value at all, and in yet others, although of benefit, it is not of sufficient benefit to offset the benefit conferred on foes or rivals by totally different attributes. Intelligence, for instance, is, of course, a survival factor; but to-day there exist multitudes of animals with very little intelligence which have existed through immense periods of geologic time either unchanged or else without any change in the direction of increased intelligence; and during their species-life they have witnessed the death of countless other species of far greater intelligence, but in other ways less adapted to succeed in environmental complex. The same statement can be made of all the many, many other known factors in development, from fecundity to concealing colouration; and behind these lie forces as to which we veil our ignorance by the use of high-sounding nomenclature—as when we use such a convenient but far from satisfactory term as " orthogenesis."

To be continued.

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Nesting Notes of the Season.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

Nothing out of the way has been done up to the present but as there are one or two points of interest to myself they may be equally so to others.

There are one or two qualifying factors I should mention, viz.: since live-food became so difficult and costly to procure it has ceased to be part of my aviary Bill of Fare; except for such insects as the birds capture in the aviary, or which I may notice on garden plants, capture, and throw into the aviary It may be helpful if I state the *menu* of my large aviary, which contains a varied series of Passerine birds, and four species of *Columbidae*.

Menu: Insectile mixture, milk-sop, fruit, seed (canary, millet, hemp, and wild seeds). No addition whatever has been made during the breeding season, save that greenfood supplies have been more liberally and more frequently supplied.

Another fact is that I have been so occupied with many things that I have been able to give my birds this season the merest feeding attendance; with an occasional odd half-hour for observation, and these not by any means daily ones!

The first youngster to appear was a common Barbary Turtle-Dove (*Turtur risorius*). An episode of no interest and unworthy of mention, save for one fact connected with its parents. In late summer, 1919, a friend asked me if I would give a home in the aviary to a pair of this species, stating that though they nested regularly the eggs were all infertile, as the cock bird was too old to be of any further use for breeding They came, and one clutch of eggs were laid and incubated in 1919, but both eggs were infertile. Thus we may deduce that natural and roomy quarters have imparted breeding vigour to the cock bird. I really only accepted them as being probably useful as foster parents for the eggs of other Doves.

The next young birds to appear were Indian Silverbills (*Aidemosyne malabarica*). I had not noted them going to nest, but one morning found a young bird, dead but fully fledged. beneath a rush nest in the shelter. I then looked around and found two others in the bushes in the aviary, still being fed by their parents, and one addled egg in the nest; both these youngsters are now fending for themselves, and their parents are now incubating another clutch of eggs in the same nest.

A week later I saw three young Avadavats on the wing. I then searched for and found the nest with little trouble. It was the usual and rather large, rough outwardly, domed nest with an entrance hole at the front. woven around the stems of a thick and densely foliaged privet-bush. I have six or seven cocks and two hens in the aviary, and, I think, the same pair are nesting again.

I next noticed a pair of Turtle Doves (*Turtur turtur*) incubating a couple of eggs. I have five of this species in my aviary, all of which were caught last year on my small poultry farm. A squabble among these and a pair of Vinaceosu Turtle Doves (*T. vinaceus*) resulted in the eggs being broken when about due to hatch; they contained two perfectly formed chicks. The pair laid another clutch (in the same nest), which they incubated, hatched and successfully reared. These two young birds are much duller and browner than their parents, the wing chequering indistinct, and they lack the black and white neck patches of the adult bird.

The Vinaceous Turtle Doves have spent their time, so far, trying to construct a nest of sticks and bents in a standard ash; only to have it shaken to pieces again and again by the alighting of other Doves and birds in the tree. They are now taking an interest in a box, fixed high up in the covered part of the flight, so they yet may rear young this season.

I have noticed other birds carrying nesting material, including the Himalayan Siskins and Red-vented Bulbuls, but so far have neither discovered nest nor seen any young.

Green Cardinals (*Gubernatrix cristata*) have been nesting and incubating most of the season, but so far have not brought off any young.

Red Ground Doves (*Geotrygon montana*). For the past two years my pair of birds have wasted time and effort in trying to nest on aviary-shelter floor, only to get eggs broken on each occasion; at least six times in all. This year they continued the same senseless programme and the first three clutches were all abortive in consequence. Then in June last they did begin to take an interest in a box, with the result that two young promising squabs were hatched out and one fully reared. The old birds are now nearing the end of the incubation of another clutch in the same nest box.

To date, this is the sum total of results in my large mixed aviary; the large number of odd birds therein may account for some pairs not going to nest.

I have only one *pair* of Parrakeets, a pair of Stanley's, which I procured from the Marquis of Tavistock in late 1919 and were birds of the year. They occupy an aviary with a shelter 8ft. x 8ft. and a flight 12ft. x 11ft., and have with them an odd cock Blossom-head Parrakeet, and an Indian Rock Parrot, sex still uncertain. These went to nest in early June, and three young Parrakeets left the nest in July; one of these was weakly and died about a week after its exit from the nest-barrel; the other two (males) are vigorous young birds and fending for themselves. The old pair have gone to nest again, though the cock is in full moult.

The doings of my Blue-fronted Amazons I have told in a separate article.

In a similar sized aviary I have pairs of Bush Mynahs (*Acridotheres fuscus*), Red-vented Bulbuls (*Pycnonotus bengalensis*), and Aurita Doves (*Zenaida aurita*), which have not as yet gone to nest.

I have not, with one exception, attempted any Pheasant-rearing this year. The eggs from my pair of *Phasianus torquatus* have gone to friends. Of the eggs from a hen Ring-neck mated to a cock Gold Pheasant I set thirteen under a La Bresse hen, but they all proved infertile, though I have seen pairing take place on many occasions.

If not entirely a blank season, most certainly a poor one.

The Countryside.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

I have been much occupied this year, and have not seen much of the countryside, save that covered by a quarter-mile, which I traverse several times daily, as it lies between the house and my small poultry-farm.

Small area though it may be, it is nevertheless a paradise of wild-life of all kinds, and the following have nested to my own personal knowledge:

Blackbird*
Thrush*
Lark*
Great Tit
Blue Tit
Greenfinch
Bullfinch
Goldfinch*
Starling*
Ring-necked Pheasant
Partridge
Pied-Flycatcher
Spotted Flycatcher
Robin*
Redpoll
Hawfinch
Common Wren*
Chiffchaff*
Willow Warbler*
Hedge Accentor*
Grey Shrike
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker
Turtle Dove*
Linnet*
Jay*
Whitethroat*
Magpie*
House Martin*
Garden Warbler
Chaffinch*
Swallow

In my daily peregrinations to and fro I have met most (all) of these species, and peeped into most of their nests, and watched the development of their young. Frequently as I passed up and down cuckoos flew across uttering their quaint call-note, or a covey of pheasants or partridges suddenly disturbed the quietude, as, with noisily whirring wings they flew across the road from one meadow to another. Thus, though familiar with almost every blade of grass these thrice daily walks were never monotonous—some new flower, insect, bird or note attracted and pleased but filled with interest and pleasure.

Many other birds occurred and also nested in the district, but not under my observation in the small area named. I have seen and heard Blackcap, Nightingale, Tree Creeper, Nuthatch, Yellow Bunting, Barn Owl, Little Owl, Hawk, Redstart, Lapwing, Wood-Pigeon, while overhead, both at high and low elevations, have passed Swans, Geese, Mallard, etc.; all these species have occurred within a short quarter-mile south-east of the house, and observation has been of the cursory character consequent upon being carried out during duty-walks. The list would have been greatly increased if time at my disposal had permitted of observation-strolls, and persistent note taking would have greatly increased the interest and pleasure.

Perhaps, the young birds I have noticed in greatest numbers as branchers are: Lesser-Spotted Woodpeckers, Goldfinches, Chaffinches, Hedge Accentors, Robins, Blackbirds and Thrushes. Linnets also have been everywhere.

The Grey Shrike nested in a tall Thorn-bush, the nest being placed on one of the twiggy lateral arms. The birds were conspicuous, and could be seen from my holding (about 30 yards distant) going to and from the nest; when hatched the clamour of the young for about fourteen days, was very noticeable, in fact, the periods of silence were short and infrequent from dawn to sunset.

As regards the adult birds; I have marked with an asterisk, those in the above lists which were really numerous; those not so marked, while daily met with, were not so plentiful; but these few notes must be definitely read as bearing only upon the limited, *same* area trod daily. Even a quarter-mile radius, instead of the south-east section of same, would give a much larger and more varied list, especially as regards juveniles and nests.

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Correspondence.

LONG-LIVED FINCHES.

Sir,—Would it be of any interest to record in B.N. the longevity of a cock Gouldian Finch? He has just come to an untimely end by drowning after being in my possession since February, 1912. It seems a long life for such a tiny mite; but, I still have a pair of St. Helena Waxbills, a Cordon Bleu, and a masked Grassfinch purchased the same time, and a hen Red-headed Gouldian Finch procured a year later.

I knew of a Gouldian Finch which lived twelve years, and I hoped to keep mine as long, as he was quite healthy if somewhat decrepit. The others mentioned show no signs of age.

Some time ago I lost, by accident, an old cock Sparrow, which had found its way into the aviary fourteen years before; there was no telling how old he was—he might have been fourteen then! I suppose there are not many pre-war Gouldians alive in England to-day?

Bishop's Lydeard, July, 1920. (Mrs.) E. A. H. HARTLEY.

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Editorial.

The following breeding successes at the London Zoo in the Reports of Additions for June and July:—

2 Red-headed Finches (*Amadina erythrocephala*).
2 Pileated Song-Sparrows (*Zonotrichia pileata*).
1 Carolina Duck (*Lampronessa sponsa*).
5 Upland Geese (*Chloephaga magellanica*).
4 Mandarin Ducks (*Æx galericulata*).
1 Brush Bronze-wing Pigeon (*Phaps elegans*).
4 Spot-bellied Francolins (*Francolinus spilogaster*).
2 Hybrid Monaul × Silver Pheasants (*Lophophorus impeyanus* × *Gennaeus nycthemerus*).
2 Lineated Kaleege Pheasants (*G. lineatus*).
3 Greater Black-backed Gulls (*Larus marinus*).
4 Budgerigars (*Melopsittacus undulatus*).

Also the following NEW TO THE COLLECTION:

1 Grey-cheeked Thrush (*Hylocichla aliciae*).
2 Crimson-backed Tanagers (*Rhamphocaelus dimidiatus*).
2 Lark-Sparrows (*Chondestes grammacus*).
1 Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivacea*).
2 Californian Ground-Finches (*Pipilo crassilis*).
4 American Goldfinches (*Chrysomitris mexicana*).
4 Pine-Siskins (*Spinus pinus*).
2 Gambel's Sparrows (*Zonotrichia gambeli*).
2 Rufous-winged Tyrants (*Pitangus rufipennis*).
1 Venezuelan Motmot (*Momotus venezuelae*).
3 Burchell's Glossy Starlings (*Lamprocolius australis*).
1 Spanish Raven (*Corvus corax hispanus*).
1 San-blas Jay (*Cissolopha sanblasiana*).
2 Inca Doves (*Scardafella inca*).
2 Red-winged Doves (*Chamaepelia rufipennis*).
2 Mexican Ground Doves (*C. pallescens*).
2 Texan Colins (*Colinus texanus*).
1 Northern Guan (*Ortalis maccalli*).
1 Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*).
1 Pacific Gull (*L. pacificus*).

NESTING NOTES: The following records have been sent in by:—

J. Smith, Kendal.

1 cock Many-colour Parrakeet (*Psephotus multicolor*).
4 Stanley Parrakeets (*Platycercus icterotis*).

H. Carr-Walker, Pannal, Nr. Harrogate.

African Silverbill × Spice Finch (*Aidemosyne cantans* × *Muna punctulata*) hybrids.

Zebra Finches (*Taeniopygia castanotis*).
Ribbon Finches (*Amadina fasciata*).
Redpolls (*Acanthis rufescens*).
Cape Canaries (*Serinus canicollis*).

Mrs. Burgess, Clifton, Bristol.

Blue, Jade, Olive and other Budgerigars.

H. E. Bright, Woolton, Liverpool (additional records).

1 Green Cardinal (*Gubernatrix cristata*).
Second Brood Migratory Thrushes (*Turdus migratorius*).
Long-tailed Grassfinches (*Poephila acuticauda*).
Zebra Finches (*Taeniopygia castanotis*).

Greenfinch × Greenfinch-Himalayan Siskin hybrid. This is of much interest, as proving the original hybrid (Greenfinch × Himalayan Siskin) to be fertile, at any rate when paired back to one of the parent species.

Small Weaver (*Hyphantornius luteola*?) One of the brood referred to in our last issue lived to make its exit from the nest, but quickly succumbed to the prevailing cold wet weather. They have nested again and are busy feeding another brood.

Another young weaver is on the wing, what species not known at present, think it is a Crimson-crowned, as they have been seen pairing.

LESSER BIRD OF PARADISE (*Paradisea minor*). A specimen of this species has been acquired by our member Mrs. Burgess. She finds it easy to keep, and of great beauty and interest.

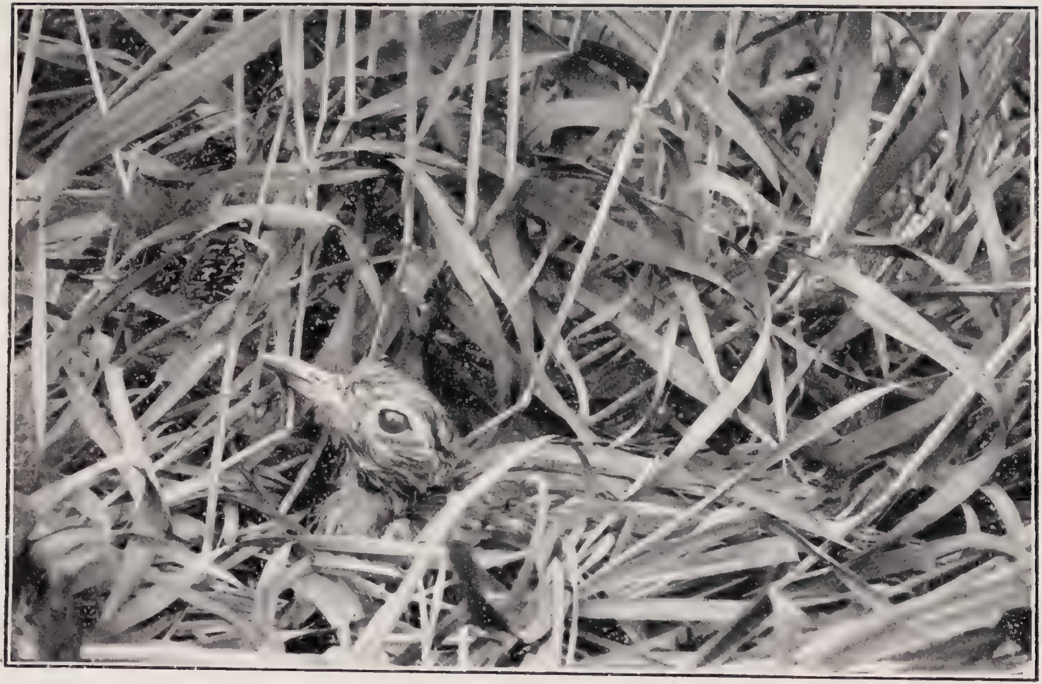

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Double-striped Thicknee hiding in growing corn.

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BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

The Double-striped Thicknee.

(Oedicnemus bistriatus).

By W. Shore Baily.

The Double-striped Thicknee, so named because of its face markings, is a rare bird in our aviaries.

A pair came to me from Mr. Rogers last July; unfortunately one was sickly and only lived a few days, but the other is a very fine bird. In colour they closely resemble our own bird (*Oedicnemus oedicnemus*), but are larger and stand some three or four inches taller. There is a greyish-white stripe immediately over the eye, with a brownish-black stripe of about twice the width over this. In the European bird the white stripe is below the eye, the throat and cheeks also being white. These parts in the American Thicknee are uniform in colour with the rest of the body.

It is very shy and spends most of the daylight hours hiding in the undergrowth, being quite as clever at taking cover as our partridge. When disturbed it runs very swiftly, uttering a low and complaining kind of grunt. In the evening it wakes up and is much more lively, being like our Stone-Curlew in all probability a night feeder. Its call is a whistle many times repeated, starting in a loud key and rather slowly, but rapidly, increasing in speed, it gradually dies away in a much lower note So loud is it when it first starts that I have more than once been aroused from sleep, although my bedroom is nearly one hundred yards from its aviary. It only calls at night or in the late evening. I have only had one bird that could beat it in volume of sound, and that was my Cayenne Rail.

It feeds upon worms and slugs, to which I add biscuit meal, bread and milk. I think it also takes toll of the mice in the aviary, as one day I saw it with a very large field mouse in its bill, which, however, eventually escaped.

My bird came from Brazil, but I can't find anything abou it in any of my books; its habitat is probably on the more open plains, or on the sandy areas at the back of the fore-shore. Our Thicknee breeds upon the downs here, but its nocturnal habits prevent it from being often seen by the ordinary observer. Two years ago I saw one upon the Warminster Golf Links. There were thirty or forty people playing at the time, but the bird appeared to be very little disturbed by them. It let me approach within thirty yards, and was, I think, a bird of

photo W. Shore Baily.

Double-striped Thicknee Wading.

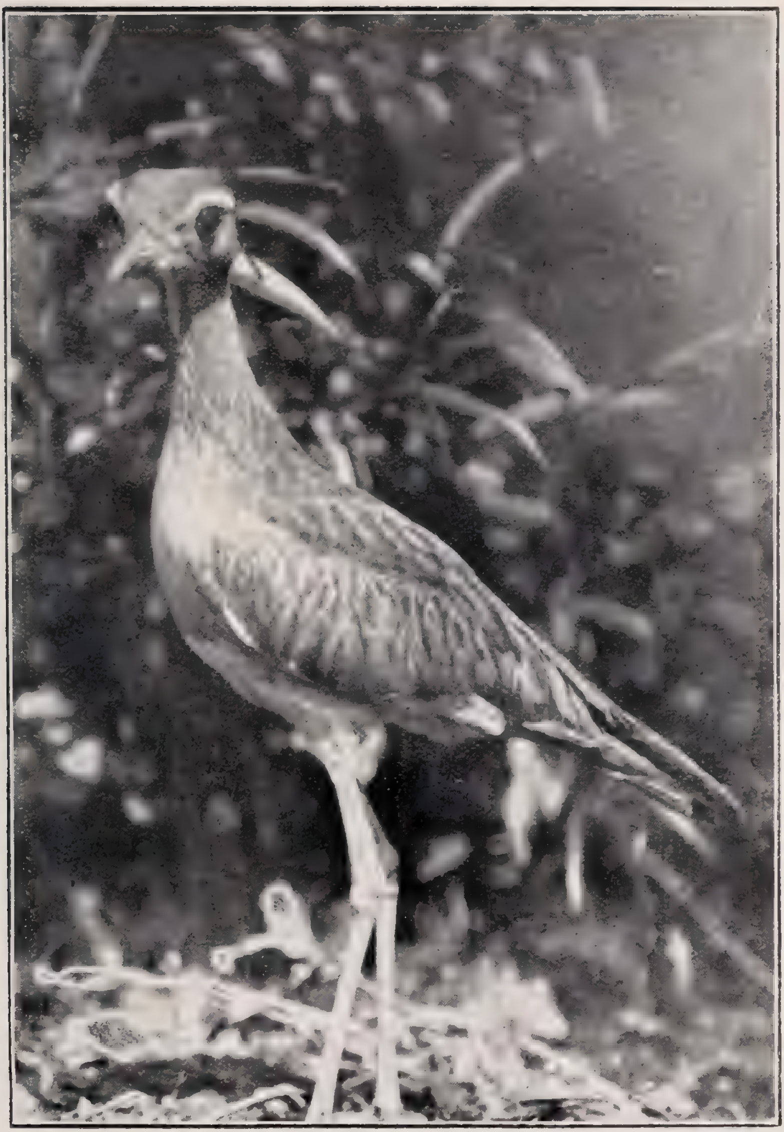

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Double-striped Thicknee.

the year. Another Thicknee that is occasionally found on the market is the Dikkop (*Oedicnemus capensis*). I was twice offered birds this season and wish now that I had taken one of them, as it might have mated with my Brazilian bird, as according to Stark's measurements they are of about the same size, although the one I saw was certainly considerably smaller. Possibly it was a young bird and not fully grown. The Zoo has just received a pair of these Double-striped Thicknees, I believe, from New York, so perhaps we may hear something of them later on from Mr. Seth Smith.

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An Observation of the Habits of the White-winged Dove.

(Thelopelia asiatica mearnsi, Ridgway.

[Reprinted from the Condor, July—August 1920, with our compliments and thanks to Author and publisher.—Ed. " B.N."]

By Alexander Wetmore.

The interesting habits of the White-winged Dove have been described in considerable detail by Bendire (Life Histories of North American Birds, 1892, pp. 145-148) and by Gilman (Condor, 1911, pp. 52-54), while scattered notes have been published by others. It is believed that the present observations include facts that have been previously unknown, although there is much that still remains to be learned concerning this species.

The White-winged Dove is known familiarly to ranchers in this region as White-wing, Sonora Dove or Mexican Dove, the last two of these appellations arising from the migratory habit of these birds that was believed to carry them into Mexico. White-wings were reputed to come to Arlington between April 20th and May 1st each year, and to be present in full force by May 20th. On my arrival in June I found them breeding in pairs scattered through the cultivated lands or the open desert, or congregated in large colonies in suitable mesquite *montes* near the Gila River. One or two pairs were found at intervals in cottonwoods beside roads or near ranch houses, but the greatest interest centered in the large congregations to be found in suitable tracts of mesquites. These rookeries were often of considerable extent. One located three and one-half miles south of Arlington extended over an area a quarter of a mile square, while another three miles beyond occupied a grove nearly half a mile wide and an equal distance in length. The birds maintained regular flights across country and gathered in flocks to feed, so that they were conspicuous figures in the bird life of the region. It was difficult to estimate the number present, as they were scattered about in dense groves of mesquites, but it was believed that there were at least two thousand pairs in the largest colony examined. The total number present in the area was large. It appeared that the period for breeding among these birds was somewhat irregular. A part of them evidently began to nest soon after their arrival, as a number that were feeding young were observed on June 6th. Others were nest-building on June 17th, so that the entire period of reproduction was somewhat prolonged. In the colonies nests were scattered about irregularly through the mesquites. Sometimes two or three nests were placd in the same tree, or again one pair occupied a tree alone. There was no crowding and apparently the birds, while gregarious, were too truculent to permit close proximity of nests. Often two or three trees, suitable in every way for the primitive needs of these doves, intervened between occupied sites.

In most cases the nest, slight in structure, though usually somewhat larger and bulkier than that of the Mourning Dove, was placed in a mesquite, though a few were observed on the desert in palo verdes. Nests were built on inclined living limbs where forking of small branches gave a firm, broad support. The site varied from six to twenty feet from the ground, with about eight feet as an average height. In most of those that were examined the structure was composed of dead twigs of the mesquite, small in diameter, and from six to ten inches long. For the inner layers small twigs were chosen that been dead for some time, so that the spines, abundant on mesquite limbs, crumbled at a touch and caused no discomfort to the brooding bird or to the young. The nest was flat and had merely enough depression to receive the eggs that often were visible through the loosely interlaced twigs at the sides. Two eggs formed a complete set. They were distinctly buffy in colour when fresh but varied in depth of shade so that occasional sets were nearly white. When blown these eggs frequently fade out even when not exposed to light so that they appear dull white with hardly a suggestion of buff, a circumstance that caused unpleasant surprise when, a few days after they had been blown, I came to examine sets that I had chosen originally for their rich colour. The eggs of the White-wing appeared to have a duller surface than the eggs of the Mourning Dove. Although two eggs formed a complete set it was not unusual to find that one was infertile; in addition there may have been mortality for some reason after eggs had hatched, as many nests were noted that contained only one young bird. Young White-winged Doves when first hatched were well covered with long, straggling down that in colour was dull white slightly tinged with buff. This natal down was replaced by secondary feather growth so rapidly that it had disappeared for the great part at the end of the first week. The feather quills that followed the down did not burst until they were quite long so that for a time the young were as grotesque as young cuckoos. The young birds were fed by regurgitation and at the age of four days received solid food in the form of undigested seeds, in addition to the usual diet of " pigeon's milk." Fledglings left the nest when between three and four weeks old, as nearly as I could ascertain. The first young bird able to fly was noted on June 12th, and by June 15th birds of this age were fairly common. These young were still dependent upon their parents for food, and though able to fly well were undeveloped and small. On first leaving the nest they perched about in the mesquites, always seeking shade, but in a few days were often found on the ground, preferably where the soil was sandy. There they walked about in the thin shade of the mesquites, examining bits of sticks and other refuse curiously, often testing such fragments with their bills, or rested quietly, squatting on the earth. In many instances it was found that they were heavily infested with small ticks against whose attacks they seemed inexperienced. No ill results from the presence of these parasites were noted, and older birds were free from them.

I was of the opinion that males did not aid in incubation, but this I was unable to ascertain with certainty. Occasionally I saw both parents perched on the sides of a nest that contained young, but all birds that were definitely identified while engaged in incubating were females. Each male chose a perch near the nest site, usually from ten to thirty feet away, and remained there on guard while the female was sitting, save for the time required to secure food. Such perches were selectd in situations that were well shaded from the direct rays of the sun during the heat of the day, and when not occupied could be readily located by the collection of ordure, often considerable in quantity, on the ground beneath.

In early morning White-winged Doves began to call soon after day-break, and when the sun appeared above the horizon were heard cooing in every direction. At this period of the day many males came out to rest on dead limbs in openings in the mesquite *montes*, or flew to more distant perches in mesquites or cottonwoods where they basked in the warm rays of the sun. Others chose perches in the tops of living mesquites where the thin foliage did not cast an appreciable shade. In mid-forenoon when the heat became oppressive they retired again to protective stations. Males had two distinct songs, that were given without apparent choice. One of these efforts may be represented by the syllables *who hoo who hoo-oo'*. The first three notes were gruff and abrupt, the last one strongly accented and somewhat prolonged. The other song, longer and more complicated may be noted as *who hoo, whoo hoo, hoo-ah', hoo-hoo-ah', who-oo.* In this case the song was separated in five parts. The first section was short and low, the second louder and almost merged with the third; the third and fourth were more musical than the others and were strongly accented on the last syllable, while the last part was lower and more or less slurred. At times the doves gave one or the other of these two songs in repetition for long intervals, or again alternated them rapidly. The longer song was more varied and pleasing to the ear as the other frequently was given in a burring, guttural tone that was often unpleasant. In addition to these songs males uttered a low, querulous, muttered note resembling *quch queh-ch* that served as a call to the female, or was given when squabbling with other males. No females were observed in the act of cooing and I was unable to ascertain their notes. Although males did not coo in unison the effect produced by hundreds of them calling at the same time was remarkable. Save for one or two birds that might chance to be near at hand, their notes seemed to come from a distance, and were so blended that it was difficult to pick out individual songs. In a large colony the volume of sound produced was so great that it carried readily for a distance of a mile and yet the tone produced was so soft that it was not deafening when near at hand. On the contrary the whole formed an undertone, continuous, and to my ear not unpleasing, that did not intrude sharply on the senses, of so vague a nature that faculties perceptive to sound soon became accustomed to it, so that through constant repetition it might pass unnoted. Although it filled the air with the same effect as that produced by the rushing of water, other sounds, the song of a Redwing or a Lucy's Warbler, the cooing of a Mourning Dove or the stamping of a horse, were heard through it clearly even when such noises originated at some distance. The effect as a whole was most remarkable and once experienced lingers long in memory.

Combats among males are frequent, but these were bloodless battles, as the birds merely flapped at one another uttering guttural notes, or when near at hand struck quickly with one wing. Often one male was at much trouble to drive all others from some trees, and once I observed one hustle away a pair of Mourning Doves that chanced to intrude upon his domain.

When females were flushed from nests containing fresh eggs usually they flew directly away with a loud *clap*, *clap* of their wings. When incubating or brooding young the procedure was often different. Then they dropped to the ground and fluttered rapidly away, continually falling forward as though injured, while moving the partly spread wings tremulously. Their course on such occasions was behind low hanging limbs or fallen branches where it was difficult to secure a clear view, a circumstance that should aid in attracting attention from any enemy. In case the male was near and had not recognised me he often dropped down to the ground and stalked about truculently, with the feathers on his back elevated and those on his throat and upper breast raised until each one stood out separate from the others, so that as he walked along he appeared twice his normal size. Occasionally other males from trees near-by flew down precipitately toward the female as though to determine what was wrong with her.

In displaying before females males had a curious habit or pose in which they raised the tail high and tilted the body forward. At the same time the tail was spread widely and then closed with a quick flash of the prominent black and white markings. In the breeding colonies males at intervals flew out with quick, full strokes of the spread wings, rising until they were thirty or forty feet in the air. The wings were then set stiffly with the tips decurved, while the birds scaled around above the mesquites in a great circle that often brought them to their original perches. The contrasted markings of the wings showed brilliantly during this flight and the whole was most striking and attractive. In the cooler part of the morning males performed constantly in this manner over the rookery.

When I sat down near nests the owners often perched near by, turning their heads curiously and watching me closely for many minutes. At the same time they twitched the tail nervously, spreading it as described above. This action was shown by wing-tipped birds also, so that it is apparently used when the birds are nervous, excited, or curious, as well as in display.

White-winged Doves start in flight with a loud clapping of wings that is accompanied by a whistling noise. When the birds are well under way their passage, while swift and direct, is noiseless. The sound at the start resembles that made by domestic pigeons. The White-wing, like certain tropical doves (for example the White-headed and Scaled pigeons) in perching in cottonwoods or other trees with dense foliage, usually alights among clumps of leaves on the higher outer branches rather than on dead limbs or in open situations such as those chosen by Mourning Doves. So well did the birds conceal themselves that after I had seen half a dozen fly into such a tree, it was not unusual to be unable to pick out a single dove in spite of their large size. In the mesquite they followed the same practice in perching, so that they were often observed merely as silhouettes through the thin foliage. When perched in trees they remained quiet save when they were calling.

In the desert areas White-wings nested more or less at random, wherever suitable palo verdes and mesquites occurred. In such localities males frequently basked in the morning sun on the flat tops of the huge sahuraros. There may be some irregularity in the period of breeding in this pigeon, as on the evening of June 9th, at Webb's Well near the northwest base of Woolsey Peak (Gila Bend Mountains) I found White-winged Doves gathering at dusk in little flocks of half a dozen or more to roost in palo verdes and mesquites along the banks of a dry wash. All that were killed in such localities were males. These desert birds proved to be warier than those found in the cultivated lands.

The morning flight from the colonies near the Gila River began an hour after sunrise and continued until nearly noon. During the middle of the day the birds were quiet, but they began again to pass out to feed in the late afternoon, continuing until sunset. While in the mesquite *montes* I saw little of these daily flights, save when birds chanced to pass overhead, as the cover was too dense, but from the open country surrounding the groves the interesting movement of the birds was easily observed. The White-wings left the colonies singly or in little flocks of five or six. As they travelled, these smaller bands frequently joined until often fifteen or twenty birds were flying in one group. A purple drupe, one-fourth of an inch in diameter, borne by a spiny shrub (*Condalia spathulata*) was a favorite food at this season and the birds also ate the fruits of the giant cactus as rapidly as they ripened. Various seeds were taken also. Harvesting of grain began in this valley about the first of June and continued until the end of the month. Fields of wheat or barley that had been cut recently were attractive to the White-wings as here they found an abundant source of food. The wheat grown in this region shattered (or shelled out) badly during the process of cutting, binding, and shocking, so that kernels of grain were scattered thickly over the fields Further, there was much additional waste grain from heads matured or stalks too short to be bound that fell to the ground when cut. As may be imagined the White-wings sought this food supply eagerly. They were gregarious in feeding as in nesting so that newcomers passing over the grain fields usually decoyed to those already on the ground until many had gathered in one spot. The grain stubble was cut high and afforded the feeding bands shelter, as the doves were short in leg and walked about with the body bent forward. It was often the case that not a bird was seen in looking across a field of wheat stubble, though several hundred might be feeding there under shelter of the wheat stalks and the low leaves thrown up to direct the flow of the water used in irrigation while the crop was being grown. White-wings were wary and easily alarmed while feeding. At times I crawled up under shelter of weeds to watch them at close range. If one of the feeding birds happened to observe some slight motion, the heads of all were up in an instant and all remained motionless, while in a minute or so they usually flew hastily in sudden alarm. Where they were shot at they became even more wary. After feeding, little groups of White-wings often flew up to rest for a time in the shelter of cottonwoods or mesquites.

Occasionally, when feeding in fields where wheat had not been shocked a dove hopped up on one of the bundles of bound grain and pecked at the heads of wheat, choosing, preferably, those that were short so that they were held firmly by the twine. Or a flock of half a dozen dropped down on a shock of wheat and fed on the cap sheaves for a few minutes. Usually, however, the birds preferred to feed in the more secure cover of the stubble and confined their attention to the abundant waste grain as long as this was available. When wheat was not threshed within a short time after it was cut these doves were said to cause serious damage to the grain in the shock. This was particularly true in the case of isolated fields that remained after the surrounding crops nad been removed. For this reason the White-winged Doves were in bad repute among many of the ranchers.

Many hunters claimed that if they were not permitted to kill White-wings during the breeding season they would get no shooting at all, as the birds leave the region immediately after rearing their young, an excuse that is poor at best, but that may be considered for the moment. From information available it seems that though the doves may forsake the cultivated fields they feed in flocks on the desert wherever food is available and that large numbers remain until October or later each year. The practice of hunting these doves in the nesting season is inexcusable, save in occasional instances where it is necessary to protect crops. With the rapid settlement of the country and the reclaiming of land under new irrigation projects at present under way, the large colonies of the White-winged Doves in the lower Gila Valley will disappear. The mesquite groves in which these birds nest furnish valuable wood for domestic use and for fence posts so that the mesquite *montes* are being steadily cut away. The doves will in consequence be reduced in number as they have been elsewhere, near Phoenix and Tucson, but should remain fairly common, as scattered pairs will continue to nest on the desert and others will take up domiciles in cottonwoods and other trees scattered through the cultivated fields and along the irrigation ditches.

Washington, D. C., February 18th, 1920

Breeding Stanley Parrakeets.

(Platycercus icterotis).

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

The Stanley Parrakeet is well known to most of our readers, but for the benefit of those unacquainted with its plumage a description had better be given.

Adult Male.—Head, sides of the neck, and most of the undersurface scarlet; cheeks yellow; back: the feathers of this area are black, broadly margined with green and more or less stained with red; wings very similar, but with a black patch on the upper coverts, blue on the bend, and the outer margins of primaries also blue; rump and upper tail-coverts green; tail: central feathers green, bluish near tip and tipped with white, outer feathers green at base, then pale blue, with white tips;

beak light horn-colour; feet dull grey-brown. Total length 10½ins., including a tail of 5ins. length.

Adult Female.—Similar in colour and pattern, but duller and with the scarlet areas much restricted—no difficulty in picking out the sexes of adult birds.

Juvenile Plumage.—Mostly nondescript green, but with the variegations of the upper plumage obscurely indicated, and a little red at base of upper mandible and on the breast. They very soon become parti-coloured, but the full brilliance of the adult takes a full year to mature.

It is a native of South-western Australia.

The Stanley may be summarised as a small and less brightly coloured Rosella, but it must not be assumed that it is a soberly-clad species; far from it, for it is a beautiful species and much more uncommon in this country than its compatriot the Rosella Parrakeet (*P. eximius*). It is less garishly coloured than *eximius*, lacking the white and yellow areas which light up this species' plumage; it is merely comparison that warrants the term "duller." The Stanley is a beautiful species indeed; no sharp or harsh contrasts, with the scarlet, green, blue and black of its beautiful plumage softly and exquisitely harmonised.

Breeding.—The breeding of Stanleys is not difficult and it certainly merits the appellation of a *free-breeding species;* this is also equally true of many species of the extensive genus *Platycercus*, and, moreover, the sexes differ sufficiently in plumage that the tyro need not err in obtaining a true pair, which is more than can be said for that equally free-breeding species, the Rosella Parrakeet; but like the latter it is not always easy to get a "breeding-pair," for all pairs of imported birds are not equally ready to go to nest, and much impatience is often occasioned by their taking a season or two to settle down to nesting.

Here I had better digress and briefly discuss the accommodation required for breeding freely the lovely Broadtails, for there is really no reason why they should not be almost as plentifully bred as the beautiful but common Budgerigar, the Undulated Grass Parrakeet of the Australian colonist. Of course it is not every aviculturist that finds it convenient to find room, or the cost, for a breeding stock of broadtails. To hie back to the Stanley, if one is to dispense unrelated pairs, one must have two breeding pairs, and the young from each pair kept strictly separate, or ringed with differentiating rings. This difficulty can be got over by two aviarists arranging to exchange say the young cocks. Now as to accommodation, each breeding pair should enjoy an aviary to themselves, and the young should be removed to another aviary as soon as they are able to fend for themselves.

The next point to consider is the size and furnishing of the aviary. *Platycercinae* require space to indulge in flight, as, failing this, there are many infertile eggs, though there are isolated exceptions of success in quite limited quarters; nevertheless, aviaries need not be huge, a suite of three aviaries, each with a shelter 8ft. x 8ft., and a flight 12ft. x 8ft., with a height sufficient to enable their owner to walk erect in them freely. A willow trunk, which has just begun to decay, is an interesting fixture, enabling them to indulge in a natural nest-site if sc inclined. A couple of small barrels or log-nests should be fixed in the shelter, with their openings towards the light. In the flight various branches of varying thicknesses should be dispersed about, but must be so disposel as not to interfere materially with space for flight. There must be a bath, large enough to allow the birds to splash about in freely, and a couple of roomy seed hoppers. The ground area should be planted with dandelion and coarse grasses, some space being reserved in which to sow cereals at intervals. Two or these aviaries could be reserved for the breeding pairs, and one for young birds when removed from their parents.

I am of the opinion that Budgerigars, Cockateels, and Lovebirds could be kept in the aviary with Stanleys without any tragedy occurring, but in the breeding season they interfere with the larger birds by endeavouring to appropriate the larger logs or barrels instead of the medium-sized ones supplied for them—this can be modified to some extent by having a superfluity of large logs or barrels, and once the Stanleys have selected their breeding quarters they will hold the same and not be materially annoyed by the smaller fry. However, it is far the best to conquer one's desire for numbers and variety and to allow the Stanleys undisturbed possession of the aviary—thus will the best results be attained, and it is far better to do one species thoroughly well than to have but mediocre success with many. I can write feelingly upon this point as my personal weakness is fairly well known.

Personally my acquaintance with *icterotis* is not a lengthy one. Till last year, when I acquired an unrelated pair from our member, the Marquis of Tavistock, I had only possessed odd males at different intervals, which never attempted to cross with odd females of other *Platycercinae* in the same aviary. My pair which arrived last autumn were birds of the year and not then in full adult brilliance. I put them in an aviary (shelter 8ft. x 8ft., flight 12ft. x 10ft.) occupied by a cock Blossom-head, and a year old Ring-neck (*Palacornis nepalensis*). Here they settled down and gradually became more brilliant in colour, and about July I noticed them pairing for the first time, though I had noticed the cock making advances to his mate for some weeks previously. I was much occupied at the time (thanks to " .BN." etc.) and did not observe much till I missed the hen on several occasions and at last searched for her, fearing she had escaped, and eventually disturbed her in one of the nest barrels, from which, so far as I observed, she did not emerge till the young were hatched. I usually gave a hurried walk round the aviaries in the early morning, about noon, and again in the early evening, and never saw her about during the whole incubation period. In due course one young bird appeared, quite strong on the wing at once; two days later another made its exit from the barrel, equally strong, and a week later a third appeared, but this latter was weakly (rickety), and one morning after heavy rain during the night, I found it dead in the flight—I had driven it into the shelter at dusk the previous night.

In the adjoining aviary was a pair of Blue-fronted Amazons, which bit, rather badly, at the base of the upper mandible, the first young Stanley to leave the nest; fortunately this injury was not fatal, and the bird continued to thrive, and now (September 6th) the outward signs of the injury have practically disappeared. This causes me to remark that divisions between parrakeet-aviaries should be double, with at least a space of one inch between the two courses of netting. Both the surviving young birds are thriving and developing well and have been " on their own " for some weeks. Their plumage I described at the beginning of these notes under " Juvenile plumage."

The parent birds showed signs of going to nest again, but almost immediately went into heavy moult, and, at present, this is not complete.

I have attempted to make these notes applicable to *Platycercinae* generally, and to some extent have succeeded in so doing, but, of course, the question of individualism qualifies all general principles. However, if the *dicta* of one pair to each aviary be adhered to the above notes will apply to any species of *Platycercus* as regards their breeding economy.

Perhaps, a short note on my Rosella Parrakeets (*P. eximus*)—I do not possess any now, rats took my last pair—may increase the utility of this article. A pair I kept (a true pair) for some years in a mixed series of birds never attempted to nest; later (alone), in quite a moderate sized aviary, they went to nest and brought off three strong young birds, and the next season successfully reared two broods, after which I parted with them. I should say the Rosella is impatient of company when nesting, and is very savage towards other *psittaci* then—quite unsafe company for budgerigars, cockateels, lovebirds, etc.

In conclusion, a few words as to dietary. I am a firm believer in a simple *menu*, and only supply canary, millet and heavy white oats as the staple *menu*, with greenfood and fruit, of course. When they are feeding young or moulting a small quantity of sunflower, safflower and hemp seeds is added to the mixture. When feeding young they eat quite a quantity of greenfood, and eat with gusto quantities of fresh, clean dandelion leaves and flowers, seeming to prefer it to any other; at any rate it is all eaten first when a mixed supply is put in.

Most of the *Platycercinae* are quite hardy, and may be left out of doors all the year round with impunity. The shelter needs no door, simply an open doorway. In the northern counties probably a door for winter use would be preferable, with only a smallish opening, say about one foot square, for ingress and egress.

1920 Notes of Leadenham House Aviaries.

By Capt. J. S. Reeve, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

The Editor has been clamouring for an account of my avicultural successes (or the reverse!) for some time past. Well, as I have only one pre-war inmate of my aviaries, who went away soldiering with me and survived the Great War to return to his old home, perhaps it may be of interest to enumerate my new collection.

No. 1 Aviary: A pair of Red-rump Parrakeets (*Psephotus haematonotus*) have bred twice, one nice pair of their progeny now being in the Zoo Parrot House (a second young cock of this brood died), and I have two young cocks from the second nest now about to be sold. On each occasion I had to shut up the old cock as he was very jealous of the young cocks and drove them about.

A pair of Triangular-Spotted Pigeons (*Columba phaeonota*), bought from Zoo, have bred twice, and, I believe, again have young in the nest: the first pair left the nest on May 30th; on July 17th one young bird left the nest, being followed by the second, five days later; they do not leave the nest until fully grown and able to fly. The skin round the eye begins to colour in about a month, but the immature plumage has not the sheen or vividity of the adult.

A pair of Barbary Doves (*Turtur risorious*), "received on Deposit" as the Zoo says, have bred four times, the first leaving the nest on May 4th, and the last on September 2nd; on each occcasion but one they have refused to rear more than one, though two were hatched every time!

A pair of Common Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*) are as tame as chickens, but have made no *attempt* to nest.

A pair of Quaker Parrakeets (*Myopsittacus monachus*), just purchased, I have not yet liberated.

In this aviary during winter I also had a White-crested Jay-Thrush (*Garrulax leucolophus*), now deposited at Zoo and for sale, and a Black-necked Grackle, which I sold to the New York Zoo for £5. Both these were amusing birds, especially the latter, who did not know what fear was and had evidently been reared by hand; he whistled part of a tune when no one was watching him, and had a whistle of his own, which he used violently or otherwise according as he was pleased or required attention. To be tickled or scratched anywhere delighted him and caused him to stretch himself up to his full length and raise his hackles. He ate some seed and soft food, but liked bread and milk, grapes and a bit of raw meat. A dead mouse would be skinned and enjoyed! If he thought he was being teased or interfered with he would let drive with sledge-hammer strokes of the bill, but was otherwise good-tempered with all.

No. 2 Aviary: In this aviary no successes *whatever* in the breeding line! Pairs (?) of Brush Mynahs (*Acridotheres fuscus*), Blue-cheeked Barbets (*Cyanops asiatica*), and Red-vented Bulbuls (*Molpastes bengalensis*), true pair Indian Rain Quail (*Coturnix coromandelica*), and Common Quail (*C. coturnix*), a Green Glossy Starling (*Lamprocolius chalybeus* (lately purchased), and my old cock Shama out for his summer season; for "cock of this walk" I think the two latter about divide the honour, though the Barbets pretty well have their own way.

In May and June the Common Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*) could be seen uttering their "wet my lip, wet my lip," familiar to my ear in those months on the high land here. I hoped they would nest, but so far I have failed to obtain a clutch of these eggs either from in or outside the aviary! I am inclined, however, to believe that this pair mated. They have another call and also a variation of the "wet my lip" cry. Barbets Mynahs, Bulbuls, and Starling all feed on fruit, and are content with apple, but what they really appear to relish are green figs, of which I give them the skins; beyond this fruit I give nothing in this aviary but soft food and white millet. Having been a damp and chilly summer I do not think the birds have been able to catch as much live food for themselves as usual.

No. 3 (large) AVIARY: Here I have tried to get together a collection of rarer British birds with a view to breeding them but *not one* has *attempted* to nest! Foremost in this aviary is the aforementioned old veteran a Red-headed Weaver (*Quelia erythrops*) bought by me with another in 1907 from a neighbour, who bought them from Hamlyn the previous year, not knowing what they were, as they were out of colour. It is hardly likely that these birds were bred in that year of their importation (1906), and therefore my old friend must be *at least* 15 years old, which beats Mrs. Hartley's records in your last issue, and he has been kept out winter and summer except during the war. The other foreign inmates of this aviary are a pair of Red-billed Weavers (*Quelea quelea*) who have attempted nests but never properly finished them the courtship display of the male, usually on or above the nest is rather amusing wings straight up over back and a long high note; a pair of Half-masked or Black-fronted Weavers and a pair of Indian Rain or Black-breasted Quail. The last named Weavers built three nests, one of which was the best, and was used, two or three eggs being laid in it; it was hung from a rambler rose stem right in the open and front portion of the aviary. These were eggs on June 21st, and July 4th they hatched, it being wet chilly weather. Nine days later I found one young one dead under the nest; its feathers were just beginning to grow. I could not be sure if there was ever another. The female went into the nest after this, but on July 18th it was empty. I was away from home until July 13th, after which I began to supply ants' eggs, but I could not make out that she found them, and I am of opinion that the youngsters died for want of sufficient live-food. She was *most* assiduous in hunting for this, but did not appear to me to catch sufficient. The cock bird was very jealous over the nest, and occasionally looked into it, but I could not see that he ever fed and he had begun to build a fresh nest, which I hoped would be used, but it was never properly completed; it was a very disappointing experience.

A pair of Jungle Bush Quails (*Perdicula asiatica*) completes the foreign list. "Britishers" (or preferably

Britons!) are as follows: Pairs of Twites, Bramblings, Siskins (cock now dead), Cirl Buntings, and since breeding season ended Crested Tits and Crossbills. One of the Tits was a nestling of this year; I bought them from De Von; they are very tame and seem to eat the hemp supplied for the Crossbills (who live on it). They now take little or none of the soft food, but catch live insects for themselves.

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An Interesting Episode.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

During the wet period of July-August the bushes in my large aviary became overgrown, covered on the top with the wild white-flowered convolvulus. When attending to the birds at mid-day on September 14th, I heard, at the other end of the aviary, young clamouring for food, but being very pressed could not locate them. On the evening of the next day I heard the sound again, as I was going down the side walk to the aviary entrance almost opposite to me; from the screening of a thick growth of loganberry I stood still and watched, my point of vision being centered on the shadowed interior of a golden privet bush; almost at once a cock Crimson-crowned Weaver (*Pyromelana flammiceps*) appeared, entering from far side of bush, and fed a young bird, either on branch or entrance to nest—the former, I think, but apart from the brilliant colour of the adult all else was obscure shadow, save for the slight movement and clamouring of the young bird. At mid-day heavy rain set in, which may quench my hopes of rearing this species, but I hope to be able to give further details in next issue.

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Through the Brazillian Wilderness—Birds.

[As being of great interest to our readers we have made extracts (with apologies and best thanks to the publishers) from this LIVE book of the parts referring to the avifauna of this area.—Ed. B.N.]

By Theodore Roosevelt.

Continued from page 172.

Up the Paraguay: "On one ride we passed a clump of palms which were fairly ablaze with bird colour. There were magnificent Hyacinth Macaws; Green Parrots, with red splashes; Toucans with varied plumage—black, white, red, yellow; Green Jamcars; flaming Orioles and both Blue and dark Red Tanagers. It was an extraordinary collection. All were noisy . . . . The assembly dispersed as we rode up; the huge blue macaws departed in pairs, uttering their hoarse "ar-rah-h, ar-rah-h.'

"The water-birds were always a delight . . . . I killed a Wood-Ibis on the wing . . . . Kermit shot a Jabiru . . . . One day we found the nest of a Jabiru in a mighty fig-tree, on the edge of a patch of jungle. It was a big platform of sticks placed on a horizontal branch. There were four half-grown young standing on it. We passed it in the morning when both parents were also perched alongside . . . . Near the ranch-house, walking familiarly among the cattle, we saw the big, deep-billed Ani Blackbirds.* They feed on the insects disturbed by the hoofs of the cattle, and often cling to them and pick off the ticks. It was the end of the nesting-season, and we did not find their curious communal nests, in which half-a-dozen females lay their eggs indiscriminately. The common Ibises in the pond near by—which usually went in pairs, instead of in flocks like the Wood-Ibis—were very tame, and so were the Night Herons and all the small herons. In flying the storks and ibises stretch the neck straight in front of them. The jabiru—a splendid bird on the wing—also stretches out the neck in front, but there appears to be a slight downward curve at the base of the neck, which may be due merely to the craw. The big slender herons, on the contrary, bend the neck back in a beautiful curve, so that the head is nearly between the shoulders. One day I saw what I at first thought was a small yellow-billed kingfisher hovering over a pond, and finally plunging down to the surface of the water after a school of tiny young fish; but it proved to be a bien-te-vi king-bird. Curved-bill Woodhewers, birds of the size and somewhat the colouration of the Veeries, but with long slender sickle-bills, were common in the little garden, back of the house; their habits were those of creepers, and they scrambled with agility up, along, and under the trunks and branches, and along the posts and rails of the fence, thrusting the bill into crevices for insects. The Oven-birds, which had the carriage and somewhat the look of Wood-thrushes, I am sure would prove delightful birds on a close acquaintance; they are very individual, not only in the extraordinary domed mud nests they build, but in all their ways, in their bright alertness, their interest in and curiosity about whatever goes on, their rather jerky quickness of movement, and their loud and varied calls. With a little encouragement they become tame and familiar. The parrakeets were too noisy, but otherwise attractive little birds, as they flew to and fro and scrambled about in the top of the palm behind the house. There was one showy kind of king-bird or tyrant flycatcher, lustrous black with a white head.

"Next day we were ascending the Säo Lourenco . . . . The Crested Screamers, dark grey and as large as turkeys, perched on the very topmost branches of the tallest trees. Hyacinth Macaws screamed harshly as they flew across the river. Among the trees was the Guan, another peculiar bird as big as a big grouse, and with certain habtis of the wood-grouse, but not akin to any northern game-bird. The windpipe of the male is very long, extending to the end of the breast-bone, and the bird utters queer guttural screams.

"Next day we were ascending the Cyabá River . . . There were various houses, sheds, and corrals near the river's edge . . . . Spurred Plover, or Lapwings, strolled familiarly among the hens. Parrakeets and Red-headed Tanagers lit in the trees over our heads . . . . Black and golden Orioles, slightly crested, of two different species, were found along the river; they nest in colonies, and often we passed such colonies, the long pendulous nests hanging from the boughs of trees directly over the water.

"On the morning of the 28th we reached the home buildings of the great Säo Joäo *fazenda* . . . . These caeté flags stood above the other and lesser marsh plants. They were higher than the heads of the horsmen. Their two or three huge banana-like leaves stood straight up on end. The large brilliant flowers—orange, red, and yellow—were joined into a singularly shaped and solid string or cluster. Humming Birds buzzed round these flowers; one species, the Sickle-billed

Hummer, has its bill especially adapted for use in these queerly shaped blossoms, and gets its food only from them, never appearing round any other plant . . . . The huge Jabiru Storks, stalking through the water with stately dignity, sometimes refused to fly until we were only a hundred yards off; one of them flew over our heads at a distance of thirty or forty yards The Screamers, crying *curu curu*, and the Ibises, wailing dolefully, came even closer. The wonderful Hyacinth Macaws, in twos and threes, accompanied as at times for several hundred yards, hovering over our heads and uttering their rasping screams . . . . The downpour continued so heavily . . . . once the rain lightened, and half a mile away the sunshine gleamed through a rift in the leaden cloud-mass. Suddenly in this rift of shimmering brightness there appeared a flock of beautiful White Egrets. With strong, graceful wing-beats the birds urged their flight, their plumage flashing in the sun. They then crossed the rift and were swallowed in the grey gloom of the day.

" Near the ranch-house, about forty feet up in a big tree, was a Jabiru's nest containing young jabirus. The young birds exercised themselves by walking solemnly round the edge of the nest and opening and shutting their wings. Their heads and necks were down-covered, instead of being naked like those of their parents . . . . There were many strange birds about. Toucans were not uncommon. I have never seen any other birds take such grotesque and comic attitudes as the toucan. This day I saw one standing in the top of a tree with the big bill standing straight into the air and the tail also cocked perpendicularly. The toucan is a born comedian. On the river and in the ponds we saw the Firefoot, a bird with feet like a Grebe, and bill and tail like those of a darter; but, like so many S. American birds, with no close affiliations to any other species . . . . Herons of many species swarmed . . . .

" The following day we descended the Säo Lourenco to its junction with the Paraguay, and once more began the ascent of the latter. At one cattle-ranch where we stopped, the Troupials, or big black and yellow orioles, had built a large colony of their nests on a dead tree near the primitive little ranch-house. The birds were breeding; the old ones feeding the young. In the neighbourhood the naturalists found many birds that were new to them, including a tiny woodpecker no bigger than a Ruby-crowned Kinglet . . . . At night we heard the calling of large flights of Tree-Ducks. These were now the most common of all the ducks, although there were many Muscovy Ducks also.

"By the morning of January 5th we had left the marsh region . . . . The bird-life was wonderful. One of the characteristic sights we were always seeing was that of a number of heads and necks of Cormorants and Snake-birds, without any bodies projecting above water, and disappearing as the steamer approached. Skimmers and Thick-billed Tern were plentiful here right in the heart of the continent. In addition Spurred Lapwing, a characteristic and most interesting resident of South America; we found tiny Red-legged Plover, which also breed and are at home in the tropics. The contrasts in habits between closely allied species are wonderful. Among the plovers and bay snipe there are species that live all the year round in almost the same places in tropical and sub-tropical lands; and other related forms which wander over the whole earth, and spend nearly all their time, now in the arctic and cold temperal regions of the far north, now in the cold temperate regions of the south. These latter wide-wandering birds of the sea-shore and the river-bank pass most of their lives in regions of almost perpetual sunlight. They spend the breeding season, the northern summer, in the land of the midnight sun, during the long arctic day. They then fly for endless distances down across the north temperate zone, across the equator, through the lands where the days and nights are always of equal length, into another hemisphere, and spend another summer of long days and long twilights in the far south, where the antarctic winds cool them, while their nesting home, at the other end of the world, is shrouded beneath the iron desolation of the polar night.

"After leaving Cáceres we went up the Sepotuba, which in the local Indian dialect means River of Tapirs . . . . Many birds were around us; I saw some of them and Cherrie and Miller many, many more. They ranged from particoloured macaws, green parrots, and big gregarious cuckoos down to a brilliant green and chestnut kingfisher, five and a quarter inches long, and a tiny orange and green manakin, smaller than any bird I have seen except a hummer. We also saw a bird that really was protectively coloured—a kind of whip-poor-will, which even the sharp-eyed naturalists could only make out because it moved its head."

To be continued.

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A Retrospect.

By W. A. Bainbridge.

(*Concluded from page 149*)

I see that the Editor put "to be continued" at the end of July instalment of my article. That and a postcard reminds me that I must write more; if members are tired of it the remedy is to send articles to the Editor and crowd me out—I hope they will, as I, for one, am tired of reading my own articles, and the Editor is short of copy.

Bicheno's Finches I have already mentioned, and nice little birds they are, being the smallest of the grassfinches and fairly ready to go to nest; I once bred them and very pleased I was too, but I always regard it as one of my *successes*, for they are not particularly hardy; however, they are splendid aviary birds—their quaint colouration is a sure source of comment from visitors to the aviary, and some such remark as "Oh, what are those sweet little birds there with lines on them" can generally be heard. I can recommend them to anyone who wants a really nice bird that is not too shy.

Another little favourite that aways attracts attention is the wee Red Avadavat, or Tiger Finch as some call him. Call him what you will (another name for him is Strawberry Finch) his bright colour, cheery demeanour and delicious little song always bring him into prominence; the song is really beautiful, and for that alone he is worth a place in every aviary. His little mate is worth her place too, if only as a contrast, and to show you what he will be like in a month or two's time when he passes into eclipse plumage.

Perhaps the favourite of all visitors, and most aviculturists too, is the exquisitely plumaged Cordon Bleu, which is not nearly so delicate as is commonly supposed, although it can never be designated as really robust; still, it does not mind cold weather so much as draught, the curse of all life, whether bird or human.

Another, so-called, delicate bird is the Pin-tailed Nonpareil. I gave mine paddy rice as instructed in all bird books, and they certainly ate it, but they took other foods too. I used to go to the bird-shops and pick out my own pairs and found them quite easy to acclimatise.

The bird I like least of all, in fact I disliked it, was the Combasou for a few months each year, when in breeding plumage, but not nearly so nice as the Jacarini Finch. I also accuse the Combasou of being dull, lethargic and stupid. The little Silverbill is a nicer bird, active and alert, in fact he is everywhere; it bred freely with me—at one time they bred faster than I could sell them, and, like the Red-headed Finches, became a nuisance. Really a good bird for a beginner who needs encouragement.

The Diamond Dove is the very nicest of all the dove-tribe—minute, for a dove, and really beautiful, and its coo is not too mournful. They always breed and can be relied on. They possess beauty and grace, and are a real acquisition in any aviary.

As for the Java Sparrow—the White variety is supposed to breed freely; mine did not even try, and I had a true pair I am sure.

My present avicultural interests are divided between four nestfuls of blue-bred Green Budgerigars, who, if they do not fly soon will fall out through being too crowded, and my first pullet to start laying this year—she started seventeen days ago. May they all do as well.

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Editorial.

The following extracts, culled from the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Soc.*, will, we think, prove of practical interest to our readers.

J.B.N.H.S., Vol. xxvi., page 1044.—

Birds of Different Species Nesting in Company.

" The frequency with which I have found nests of different species " in the same tree rather surprised me. Dewar has, I think, noted in one " of his books that the Oriole often breeds in company with the Black " Drongo, and it must often be the attractive presence of this watchman " that accounts for others choosing the same site for nesting purposes.

" On several occasions I have found three or four nests belonging " to different species in one tree and mention three cases.

" 19th June : A mango tree of small size contained, 20ft. up, a nest " of the Southern Green Pigeon with two eggs ; and slightly higher and " to one side was the nest of a Red Turtle Dove with one egg.

" 20th June :—In an ordinary-sized mango tree were first of all " Red-vented Bulbul's nest, containing two eggs, then a little higher a " Jungle Babbler's nest with three eggs, then a S. Green Pigeon's with " two eggs, and finally a Black Drongo's containing two eggs.

" 7th July : A mango tree was the choice of a S. Green Pigeon " (2 eggs), below it of a Black Drongo (3 eggs), and 10ft. from the ground " of a Red-vented Bulbul (2 young birds).

" I took the three Green Pigeons' eggs, as they were of an " unusual shape. By the 15th the Drongos had hatched out and there " was another nest of a Green Pigeon with one egg.'

Lucknow, *10th August, 1919.* G. O. ALLEN, I.C.S.

The Red Turtle Dove (*Oenopeplia t. tranquebarica*) in Unao, U.P.

" I had noticed in Unao in January 1914, often feeding along with " the Indian Ring-Dove, but I made no note of ever having seen many " of them.

" This year, however, on June 19th, in the same district, I noticed " them in very large numbers on an open bit of ground that was once " a government babul plantation (it had nearly all been cut down now). ' I commenced to count a flock and found there were 20 cocks and a " few hens.

" I soon saw a bigger lot ; this numbered over 50, including both " sexes. In another flock there were over a hundred birds of this species.

" They were all busy feeding—this was early in the morning—in " dense flocks which consisted entirely of this species as a rule. The " whole bit of ' usar ' there was dotted with these flocks, the colour of the " flocks making very conspicuous patches. They were breeding now as " I took the first nest on May 6th. A couple of days later I took two

“ eggs from one nest, and three from another, all in the same babul tree.

“ The nest is so flimsy that it takes quite a lot of finding. In that “ tree was also a nest of the Large Grey Babbler, containing eggs. There “ appeared to be several Red Turtle Doves' nests in this tree, and they were “ evidently not deterred by my attentions as I took yet another nest on “ June 19th from this same tree.

“ This babul tree was evidently particularly popular with this “ species—it was not far from where I had seen so many of them—as I “ found one or two other nests, in different trees, towards the end of June.

“ The place where I noticed these birds so numerous was a spot I “ often visited while out nest-hunting; presumably they were not all “ breeding in the neighbourhood at that time at any rate.”

Lucknow, *10th August, 1919.* G. O. ALLEN, I.C.S.

J.B.N.H.S., Vol. xxvi., page 843.—

MATERNAL INSTINCT IN THE PIED BUSH CHAT (*Pratincola caprata*).

“ The probability that a bird will desert its nest if disturbed is often “ mentioned and is a fact well known. I once found 12 nests of Tickell's “ Staphidia (*Staphidia striata*) within a space of 20 yards all deserted, and “ many with addled eggs therein. The opposite is not so often told. A “ Pied Bush Chat laid her eggs this year in a rusty old kerosene tin lying “ on the ground behind a line of railway carriages occupied by visitors to “ the Kalata. The tin was frequently picked up and carried about to “ show off the nest. The bird was caught by a servant and tied by its “ leg to his mistress' carriage, and she nursed and fondled it. The “ was brought to show me the nest some days later, the bird flying off the “ nest at the time. I took a Cuckoo's (*Cuculus canorus*) egg out of the “ nest. In spite of these frequent attentions the bird still sat. Two days “ after I saw it there were two more Cuckoo's eggs in the nest. The “ small bird has had her reward. She has hatched her brood and been “ spared the cuckoos. As an instance of strong maternal instinct this “ may deserve to be recorded.”

Rangoon, *1st May, 1919.* S. M. ROBINSON.

NESTING HABITS OF THE BROWN ROCKCHAT (*Cercomela fusca*).

“ The Brown Rockchat is one of the most familiar birds of the “ bungalow, and is doubtless often mistaken for the Brown-backed Robin, “ *Thamnobia cambaiensis.* A favourite nesting site is the ledge that runs “ round the top of the wall inside the bungalow, about 3 inches or so below “ the level of the ceiling, and corners of shelves in the disused rooms are “ also frequently used.

“ The nest is always surrounded by, and on the top of, a “ small heap of stones collected by the bird. Bits of broken earthenware “ pots seem to be the favourite material, and some of the pieces are so “ large that it is a marvel how the bird carries them. One piece I "measured was 2½ x 2 inches, and about ¼ inch thick; and this particular "nest had between 50 and 60 such pieces round it. The nest was in a "corner of the shelf in the office that had five people working in it all day, "and the birds showed absolutely no fear, coming to feed their three-"quarter fledged young about once in every minute. If unmolested the "birds will build in the same shelf year after year, and sometimes make a "new nest in the opposite corner of the shelf."

Darjeeling, *10th July, 1919.* W. H. MATTHEWS.

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Correspondence.

DAMAGING OF YOUNG STANLEY PARRAKEETS' BEAKS.

SIR,—Can any member account for the following? I have experienced a strange mishap this year with my last young Stanley Parrakeet. It did not leave the nest-log till a few days after the others, and a week ago I noticed a lot of feathers about; to-day I find it dead, and all the feathers from neck to upper tail coverts stripped off, the upper mandible bitten off, and no food in the crop. I have only Stanleys in this aviary. Can it be the cock Stanley? When I kept lovebirds with them I found one dead with the upper mandible bitten off. I should be glad if any member has met with similar trouble if they would give their experience, and the cause or author of the mishap if this was ascertained.

Kendal, August 10th. J. SMITH.

I have had a similar mishap to a young Stanley Parrakeet in one of my aviaries, but not of a nature to help Mr. Smith re the above. The details are as follows: The day the young Stanley made its exit from the nest-log it flew against the wire division of the next aviary and was badly bitten by a Blue-fronted Amazon through the netting, at the base of the upper mandible, this being badly splintered just below the nostril-cere and lost a lot of blood, but it was a strong young bird and has survived the injury, which occurred about two months ago, and is developing finely, though the effects of the mishap are still plainly visible. *Moral*: Have all wire-netting partitions between parrakeet aviaries double, with a space of not less than one inch between the two courses of netting.—W. T. Page.

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Post Mortem Reports.

For Rules vide *page ii. of cover.*

Budgerigar (♂). Hon. Mrs. G. Bourke, Taplow.—Extensive injuries to skull and brain, bird otherwise healthy.

N. S. LUCAS, M.D., F.Z.S.

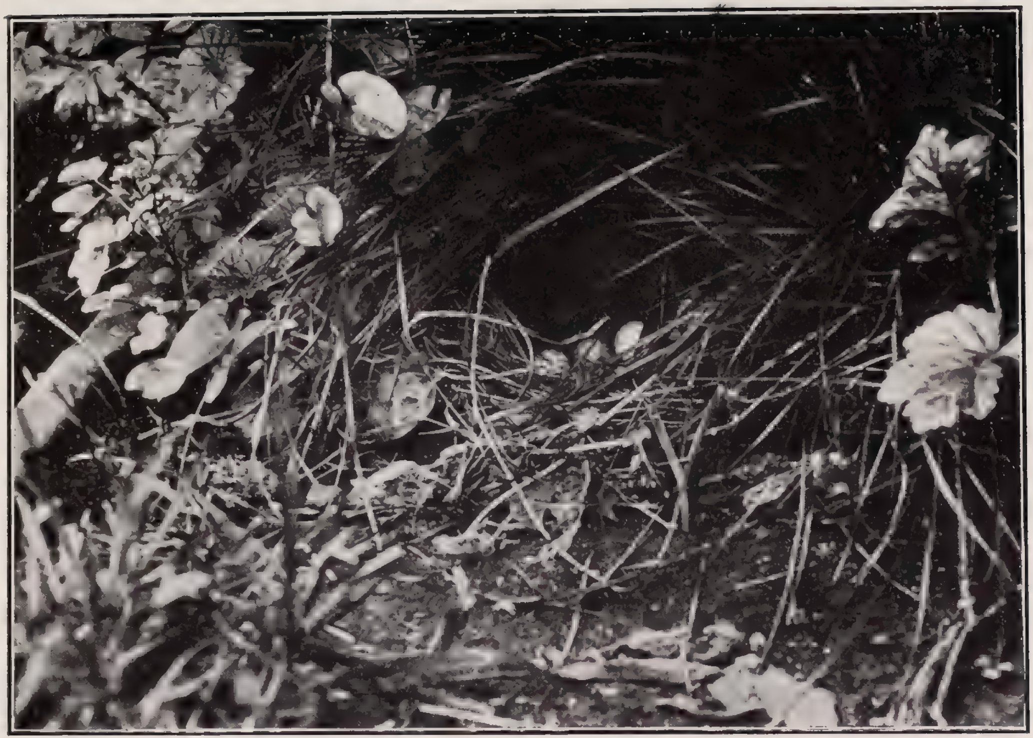

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Nest and Eggs of Mouse Lark (*Mirafra sabota*).

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BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

Some Larks in My Aviaries.

By W. SHORE BAILY.

I started this season with great expectations and five pairs of Larks. These were a pair of the rare Red-crowned Lark (*Tephrocorys cinerea*); two pairs of the little Mouse Lark (*Mirafra sabota*), and two pairs of my old friend, the White-cheeked Finch Lark (*Pyrrhulauda leucotis*).

I turned the Red-capped and one pair of the Finch-Larks into one of my largest aviaries, with gravel paths, patches of grass, growing potatoes, bushes, and running water; in fact, a perfect paradise for any kind of bird. But, as far as I know neither pair made any attempt at nesting. It is true that a large grass snake occupied the aviary all summer, and evaded all attempts at capture until the end of the season. I think that this reptile undoubtedly accounted for a troop of young Californian Quail, while I was on a holiday, and it may, of course, have taken the eggs of any other birds that nested on or near the ground.

Into a smaller aviary containing a cock and two hen Whydahs, a pair of Yellow-rumped Serins, a pair of Diamond Doves, and a pair of Button Quail, I turned the two pairs of Mouse Larks, thinking that with this small number of birds they would not be likely to get unduly bullied. The sexes are alike, and I was quite uncertain whether I had true pairs. However, before they had been turned out many days, I saw one of the birds scraping out a hollow under a tuft of grass; this she lined with fine rootlets. Two eggs were laid, greenish white, heavily speckled with grey, and not unlike some of the eggs of our House Sparrow. The weather was very wet and unsettled at the time, so I rigged up a sheet of iron over the nest, but this unfortunately caused her to desert. Some three weeks later, she made another nest and laid three eggs, but this time the Button Quail interfered and broke the eggs, and no further attempt was made by any of the birds. They are rather interesting little fellows, about as big as our Siskin, and are not at all shy. When they want to sing they hover in the air—a rather difficult feat in an aviary only 8ft. high. I have never heard them sing upon the ground, and unlike a pair of Indian Larks I once owned, they never perch upon a tree or branch to do so. The second pair of Finch Larks I put into an aviary with a whole lot of Buntings, Waxbills, and other small birds. The cock, a very rich-coloured bird, spent a great deal of his time upon the branches, but the hen never perches. No attempt at nesting was made, although there was nothing in the aviary to interfere with them successfully, the cock being well able to defend himself and partner from the occasional attacks of the Buntings. The other cock Finch Lark, instead of having the crown of the head of the normal black colour, has it greyish white. This may be a sign of age, and I shall be interested to see how it moults out this autumn. An account of the breeding of these birds for the first time in England appeared in Bird Notes for 1918. I believe that they have been bred two or three times since in other aviaries.

Writing of the Rufous-naped Lark (*Mirafra africana*), which I take it to be the same bird as *T. cinerea*, Messrs. Woodward say in *Natal Birds*:—

"This is a common Lark; we have seen it from the Ifafa to the Black Umfolosi. It is a large, stoutly-made bird, seven inches long. Colour above, brown, the feathers edged with a lighter shade, those on the back of the head redder; wings basal half, and edges rufous; rest, brown; under parts rufous, spotted on the breast with brown, the outer feathers edged with dull white. Mr. Ayres says that from the worn appearance of their claws he thinks that they obtain their food by scraping the earth, and notices what we have often remarked that in their flight they make a peculiar noise with their wings. This bird usually confines itself to the open grass rarely alighting in trees. It is fond of taking short flights and hiding itself in the grass when approached. Native name 'Unongwatshi.'"

In the aviary it is rather a shy bird, taking wing much quicker than the other species when approached, and rising with a considerable noise. It also hides cleverly, if it can do so without being observed.

Of the Mouse Lark (*Mirafra sabota*) they write as follows:—

"This little species, which is only five inches in length, is pretty abundant in Zululand, where it inhabits open grass patches amongst the thorn trees. When we found it we gave it the above name, as its only note seems to be a mouse-like squeak. It is fond of alighting on the branches of trees, but feeds on the ground. We found its nest in a clump of grass; it lays three sparrow-like eggs, white, spotted with brown and purple. Plumage of upper parts tawny, the centre of the feathers being brown; wings and wing coverts brown edged with lighter; throat and belly white; breast longtitudally striped with brown. Native name 'Swingiane.'"

As previously stated my birds in the aviary, in addition to the mouse-like squeak uttered when disturbed, occasionally sang in the air, but the song was short and weak; I never knew them to alight in the trees unless frightened.

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My Breeding Results, etc.

By L. Pullar.

I am sending these notes in response to the Editor's request (in Notices to Members) for copy.

My breeding results seem very small and insignificant beside those of some of our members, but, as I only keep a few birds at present, I think I have had as good a season as one could expect. Next year I intend to refurnish three more aviaries, which, for the past few years, have been given up to poultry, as, at present, my largest aviary is somewhat overcrowded. Then I shall keep all my finches, etc, separate from the parrakeets.

I also contemplate trying my hand at breeding Blue Budgerigars in a small aviary where they will be undisturbed by other birds. Another small aviary (16ft. x 16ft.) I am thinking of letting a pair of Red-rumped Parrakeets (*Psephotus haematonotus*) have the sole occupancy.

In my aviary this season I have only bred the following so far:—

5 Peach-faced Lovebirds (*Agapornis roseicollis*).
1 Cockateel (*Calopsittacus novae-hollandiae*).
3 Green Budgerigars (*Melopsittacus undulatus*).
3 Yellow Budgerigars (*M. undulatus* var. *luteus*).

I have two pairs of Cockateels, but I have had bad luck with them. The first clutch of eggs was broken, owing to an insecurely fixed barrel falling down, and the other nest was nullified by the interference of lovebirds. Their next clutch was laid in a box with a flat bottom; the eggs rolled about, got chilled, and did not hatch out. The other pair reared one young bird, which is now quite independent of its parents After this I was afraid they would not nest again this season but about the middle of August both pairs went to nest again, this time in boxes with a long entrance run (I find these boxes are much liked by all parrakeets). On examining these nests to-day (September 30th), I find four young birds in one, and three in the other, so, I think, the cockateels will have done fairly well, if all these young are reared.

Budgerigars, of which I have five unrelated pairs, have been a failure, as only six young birds have been reared, all the other nests having infertile eggs. The six young birds reared were one brood, and were the offspring of a Yellow cock, and Green hen. The same pair are now nesting again.

Red-headed Finches (*Amadina erythrocephala*) were also a failure. They laid several clutches, but did not hatch out a single chick; one nest had chicks dead in shell.

Blue-winged (*Psittacula passerina*) and Madagascar (*Agapornis madagascariensis*) Lovebirds made no attempt to nest whatever.

The cock Canary-winged Parrakeet was very anxious to kill the hen budgerigar who had young; he gradually enlarged the entrance to the nest, and would very soon have worked his malice upon her, had I not caught him up and clipped a few of his flight feathers. He has now moulted and can fly again and apparently looks with longing at the young budgerigars, which treat him with contempt, as they are very strong and quick on the wing. The Canary-wings are the sentinels of the aviary and should a cat, or any such enemy, appear within sight, they set up a terrible screeching (alarm notes), very effectually warning every inmate of the aviary.

Peach-faced Lovebirds have done quite well, fully rearing five young birds. They hatched out three young birds early in June, but these died when six days old. However, they built again in the same nest-box, using straw and grass as nesting material. The first egg was laid on July 21st, and four more were laid on alternate days. The first egg hatched on August 15th; on August 27th the chicks were feathered, and exactly a month later the first youngster left the nest. I have now removed them, with their parents, to the indoor aviary. I supplied the parents with green oats when they were feeding young; I also gave them, every other day, a dishful of moistened bread (all the parrakeets are very fond of this).

I cannot see any difference in the sexes, but have been told that the cock has more red above the beak.

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Through the Brazilian Wilderness.

By Theodore Roosevelt.

[As being of great interest to our readers we have made extracts from this LIVE book of the parts referring to the avifauna of this area; with our thanks and apologies to the Author and publishers.—Ed. B.N.]

Continued from page 202.

"Up the River of Tapirs: At long intervals we passed a ranch. At one large, red-tiled, whitewashed house stood a grassy slope behind mango-trees. The wooden shutters were thrown back from the unglazed windows, and the big rooms were entirely bare—not a book, not an ornament. A palm loaded with scores of the pendulous nests of troupials, stood near the door . . . . Hither and thither across the surface of the river swallows, with so much white in their plumage that, as they flashed in the sun, they seemed to have snow-white bodies borne by dark wings . . . . In one piece of high forest we saw a party of Toucans, conspicuous even among the tree-tops, because of their huge bills, and the leisurely expertness with which they crawled, climbed, and hopped among the branches . . . . Around our camp here butterflies of gorgeous colouration swarmed, and there were many fungi as delicately shaped and tinted as flowers. The scents in the woods were wonderful. There were many Whip-poor-wills, or rather Brazilian birds related to them; they uttered at intervals through the night a succession of notes suggesting both those of our whip-poor-wills and those of our chuck-will's-widow of the Gulf States. There were other birds akin to familiar birds of the United States: a dull-coloured catbird, a dull-coloured robin, and a sparrow belonging to the same genus as our common song-sparrow . . . . There were doves and woodpeckers of various species. Other birds bore no resemblance to any of ours. One honey-creeper with plumage that was black, purple and turquoise, and brilliant scarlet feet (Yellow-winged Sugarbird, Ed. B.N.). Two of the birds which Cherrie and Miller procured were of extraordinary nesting habits. One, a minlet, in shape resembled a short-tailed bluebird. It is plumbeous, with a fulvous belly and white tail-coverts. It is a stupid little bird, and does not like to fly away even when shot at. It catches its prey and ordinarily acts like a dull flycatcher, perching on some dead tree, swooping on insects and then returning to its perch, and never going to the ground to feed or run about. But it nests in burrows which it digs itself, one bird usually digging, while the other bird perches in a bush close by. Sometimes these burrows are in the side of a sand-bank, the sand being so loose that it is a marvel it does not cave in. Sometimes the burrows are in the level plain, running down about three feet, and then rising at an angle. The nest consists of a few leaves and grasses, and the eggs are white. The other bird called a nun or waxbill, is about the size of a thrush, greyish in colour, with a waxy red bill. It also burrows in the level soil, the burrow being about five feet long; and over the mouth of the burrow it heaps a pile of leaves and sticks.

"THROUGH THE HIGHLAND WILDERNESS OF WESTERN

BRAZIL: Cherrie got many birds . . . . Moses, the pet owl, sat on a cross-bar overhead, an interested spectator, and chuckled whenever he was petted. Two wrens, who bred just outside the hut, were much excited by the presence of Moses, and paid him visits of noisy unfriendliness. The little White-throated Sparrows came familiarly about the palm cabins and whitewashed houses, and trilled on the roof-trees . . . . There were towering trees with buttressed trunks, whose leaves made a fretwork against the sky far overhead. Gorgeous Red and Green Trogons, with long tails, perched motionless on the lower branches and uttered a loud thrice-repeated whistle. We heard the calling of the false Bell-bird, which is grey instead of white like the true bell-birds; it keeps among the very topmost branches . . . . There were Rheas—ostriches—and small pampas deer on this plain; the colouration of the rheas made it difficult to see them at a distance . . . . In spite of the rain Cherrie and Miller made a good collection of birds . . . . One of the most interesting was a large black and white woodpecker, the white predominating in the plumage. Several of these woodpeckers were usually found together. They were showy, noisy, and restless, and perched on twigs, in ordinary bird fashion, at least as often as they clung to the trunks in orthodox woodpecker style. The prettiest bird was a tiny mannakin, coal black, with a red and orange head."

"ACROSS NHAMBIQUARA LAND: The camp was in old and grown up fields, once the seat of a rather extensive maize and mandioc cultivation by the Nhambiquaras. On this day Cherrie got a number of birds new to the collection, and two or three of them probably new to science. We had found the birds for the most part in worn plumage, for the breeding season, the southern spring and northern fall, was over. But some birds were still breeding. In the tropics the breeding season is more irregular than in the north. Some birds breed at very different times from that chosen by the majority of their fellows; some can hardly be said to have any regular season; Cherrie found one species of honey-creeper breeding in every month of the year. Just before sunset and just after sunrise big, noisy, Blue and Yellow Macaws flew over this camp. They were plentiful enough to form a loose flock, but each pair kept to itself, the two individuals always separated from the rest.

Although not an abundant, it was an interesting fauna which the two naturalists found in this upland country, where hitherto no collections of birds and mammals had been made . . . . Cherrie got many birds which he did not recognise. At this camp, among totally strange forms, he found an old and familiar acquaintance. Before breakfast he brought in several birds; a dark-coloured flycatcher, with white forehead and rump and two very long tail-feathers; a black and slate-blue tanager; a black ant-thrush, with a concealed white spot on its back, at the base of the neck, and its dull-coloured mate; and other birds which he believed to be new to science . . . In this nighbourhood (Campos Novos) the two naturalists found many birds with which we had not hitherto met. The most conspicuous was a huge oriole, the size of a small crow, with a naked face, a black-and-red bill, and gaudily variegated plumage of green, yellow, and chestnut. Very interesting was the false bell-bird, a grey bird, with loud, metallic notes. There was also a tiny, soft-tailed woodpecker, no larger than a kinglet; a queer humming bird with a slightly flexible bill; and many species of ant-thrush, tanager, mannakin, and tody. Among these unfamiliar forms was a vireo, looking much like our solitary vireo . . . . Miller and one of the dogs caught a Sariema—a big long-legged, bustard-like bird—in rather a curious way. We were on the march, plodding along through as heavy a downpour as it was our ill-fortune to encounter. The Sariema, evidently as drenched and uncomfortable as we were, was hiding under a bush to avoid the pelting rain. The dog discovered it, and, after the bird valiantly repelled him Miller was able to seize it. Its stomach contained about half a pint of grasshoppers and beetles and young leaves. At Vilhena there was a tame sariema, much more familiar and at home than any of the poultry. It was without the least fear of man or dog. The sariema (like the screamer and the curassou) ought to be introduced into our barnyard and on our lawns, at any rate in the Southern States; it is a good-looking, friendly, and attractive bird. Another bird we met is in some places far more intimate, and domesticates itself. This is the pretty little honey-creeper. In Columbia, Miller found the honey-creepers habitually coming inside the houses and hotels at meal-times, hopping about the table, and climbing into the sugar-bowl."

"THE RIVER OF DOUBT: On February 27th, 1914, shortly after mid-day, we started down the River of Doubt into the unknown . . . . I kept our canoe to let Cherrie collect, for in the early hours we could hear a number of birds in the wood near by. The most interesting birds he shot were a cotinga, brilliant turquoise-blue with a magenta-purple throat, and a big woodpecker, black above and cinnamon below, with an entirely red head and neck . . . . Just before reaching camp Cherrie shot a Jacu, a handsome bird somewhat akin to but much smaller than, a turkey; . . . . the false bell-birds uttered their ringing whistles in the dense timber around our tents . . . . Now and again little troops of birds of many kinds passed—wood-hewers, ant-thrushes, tanagers, fly-catchers . . . . We camped at the foot of the rapids. There were many small birds here, but it was extremely difficult to see or shoot them in the lofty tree-tops, and to find them in the tangle beneath if they were shot. However, Cherrie got four species new to the collection. One was a tiny hummer one of the species known as woodstars, with dainty, but not brilliant, plumage; its kind is never found except in the deep, dark woods, not coming out into the sunshine. Its crop was filled with ants; when shot it was feeding at a cluster of long red flowers. He also got a very handsome trogon and an exquisite little tanager, as brilliant as a cluster of jewels; its throat was lilac, its breast turquoise, its crown and forehead topaz, while above it was purple-black, the lower part of the back ruby-red. This tanager was a female; I can hardly imagine that the male is more brilliantly coloured. The fourth bird was a queer hawk of the genus *Ibycter*, black, with a white belly, naked red cheeks and throat ,and red legs and feet. Its crop was filled with the seeds fruits and a few insect remains: and extraordinary diet for a hawk."

"DOWN AN UNKNOWN RIVER INTO THE EQUATORIAL FOREST: At this camp he shot an interesting ant-thrush. It was the size of a warbler, jet-black, with white under-surfaces of the wings and tail, white on the tail-feathers, and a large spot of white on the back, normally almost concealed, the feathers on the back being long and fluffy. When he shot the bird, a male, it was showing off before a dim-coloured little bird, doubtless the female; and the chief feature of the display was this white spot on the back. The white feathers were raised and displayed so that the spot flashed like the 'chrysanthemum' on a priory buck whose curiosity has been aroused. In the gloom of the forest the bird was hard to see, but the flashing of this patch of white feathers revealed it at once, attracting immediate attention. It was an excellent example of a colouration mark which served a purely advertising purpose; apparently it was part of the courtship display. The bird was about 30ft. up in the branches . . . . This camp was very lovely. It was on the edge of a bay, into which the river broadened immediately below the rapids. There was a beach of white sand, where we bathed and washed our clothes. All around us, and across the bay, and on both sides of the long water-street made by the river, rose the splendid forest. There were flocks of parrakeets, coloured green, blue, and red. Big toucans called overhead, lustrous green-black in colour, with white throats, red gorgets, red and yellow tail-coverts, and huge black and yellow bills. . . . . "

[The last chapter, *To the Amazon and Home*, contains no reference to birds of interest to our readers. Miller (the naturalist referred to frequently in the above extracts) has also written a book "In S. American Wilds," and he gives many details of the life histories of the avi-fauna met with—we may quote some of them later.—Ed. B.N.]

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The Wood Ibis.

(Tantalus loculator).

By W. Shore Baily.

The Wood Ibis, or Stork, as it is called in America, is by far the largest of the Ibises, being about the same size as the European Stork, a bird which in colour it very much resembles.

Description: Adults white; wing quills, primary-coverts and tail glossy greenish black; the bald head and neck dusky; bill dirty yellowish-brown; legs bluish grey.

Tantalus loculator is found in both the Americas. In

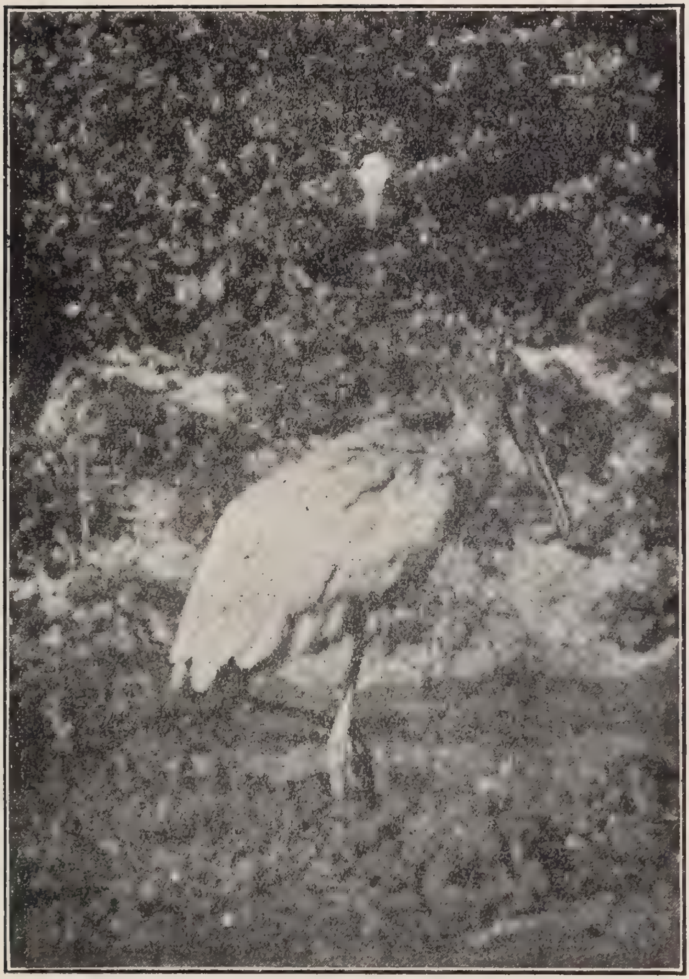

Photo W. Shore Baily

The Wood Ibis.

the Argentine, from which country my bird, I believe, came it is not a very common bird, being found on the Pampas in small flocks, or more frequently in pairs; but in Florida, U.S.A., it is much more numerous, being found breeding in the everglades in large colonies.

Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, writing of this species in *Birds of America*, says:—

“They breed in colonies numbering hundreds and thou-
“sands of pairs, and they always select the tallest trees for
“nesting sites. For several years the Audubon Society has
“been guarding a colony in big cypress swamps of south
“Florida. In the rookery nearly every tree has its nests,
“and some of the cypresses with big spreading limbs have
“six or eight of them. The colony occupies an area of from
“two hundred to five hundred yards wide, and about five
“miles in length. Here, as in other rookeries, Fish Crows
“are a great scourge. All day a stream of Crows can be
“seen flying from the pine woods to the swamps or returning
“with eggs stuck on the end of their bills. I had an oppor
“tunity to witness the rather odd manner in which these birds
“sometimes get their prey. The water was low at this
“season, and in the pine flats, various ponds, which ordin-
“arily covered many acres, were partially or entirely dried
“up. One of these was reduced to a length of about one
“hundred feet, and with a width perhaps half as great,
“containing many small fish crowded together. Thirty
“seven Wood Ibises had taken possession of this pool, and
“seemed to be scratching the bottom, evidently for the
“purpose of making the already thick water so muddy that
“the fish would have to come to the surface. The numerous
“downward strokes of the bare bony heads fully demon-
“strated the effectiveness of their enterprise.”

The writer has seen his bird standing on one leg in its pond and scratching up the mud with the other when feeding: but in this case, of course, its food didn't require any further killing, as much of it had been already dead some days. It is quite gentle and not very shy. Its walk closely resembles that of my Adjutants, which are in the same enclosure with it. It also shares in their frequent jumping and dancing displays, although it takes care to keep just out of reach of their powerful

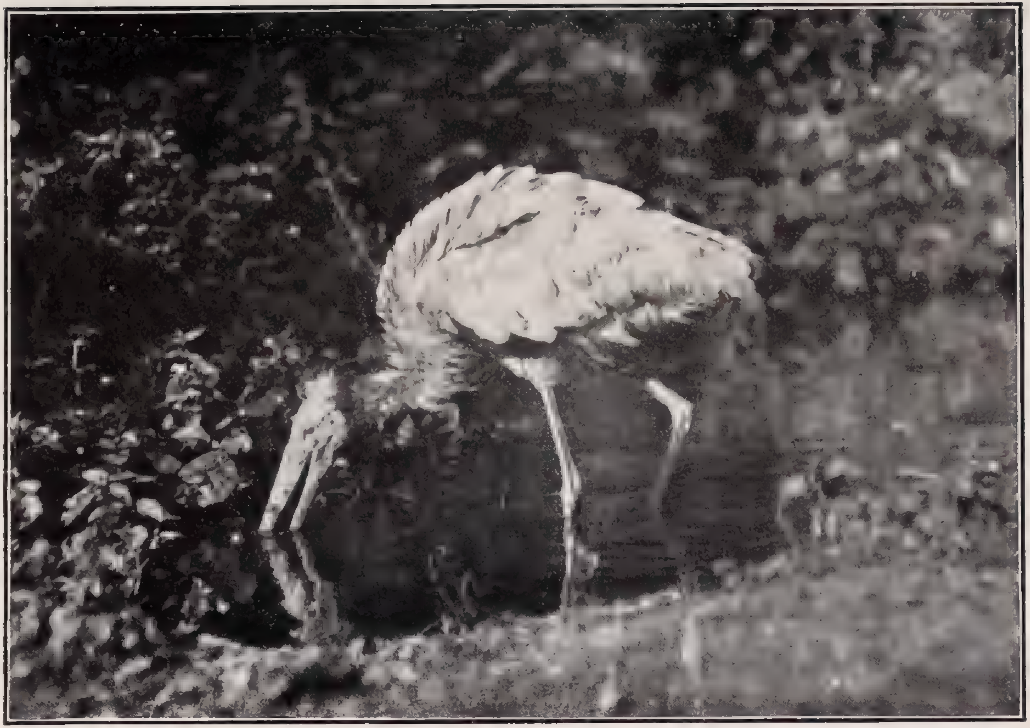

Photo by W. Shore Baily.

The Wood-Ibis Fishing (*Tantalus loculata*).

beaks. Its diet consists of fish only, and it seems to thrive very well thereon, but it probably adds a few field mice and frogs to its *menu* by its own hunting. When it gets a piece of fish too big to swallow, it breaks it up with digs from its powerful beak sometimes spending a considerable time over a particularly tough morsel.

The photo herewith shows the Stork fishing . It feels about with its mouth open, until it strikes its prey, when the beak is closed with a snap and its capture is quickly swallowed. This *Tantalus*, as is the case with the others of its group, has no vocal organs.

In India a smaller variety is found, *T. leucocephalus* known locally as the " Beefsteak Bird," on account of its edible qualities. The principal difference between this and *T. loculator* is the colour of its face and bill, which are yellow.

Africa also possesses its *Tantalus*, a rather larger bird than either the American or Indian species. This has the face red and the bill yellow. It is said to be very good eating, but am bound to say that I should *not* care to dine off my bird.

◆

Three Episodes in My Aviary.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

Red-vented Bulbuls (*Molpastes bengalensis*): The first episode refers to a pair of Red-vented Bulbuls, which were put into the aviary late last year; this pair were in fine form and perfect feather, and I had great nopes that they would go to nest in the following spring. The winter passed uneventfully, but the birds did well and were in perfect form, very active, bright and noisy during March and April, and, I opined, everything promised well. On several occasions during April I saw one of the birds—cannot be sure if it were the same bird on each occasion—with bents in its mouth and going into the bushes with same, but I could find no trace of nest-building. Then (early May) I missed one of the birds and searched through the aviary several times for it, but could find no trace of it whatever; neither could I find any nest which could be attributed to a bulbul, so I disgustedly concluded that one of them was dead, and its body hidden among the undergrowth—another odd bird in the aviary thought I!

I was very much occupied and the birds only got feeding attention, but I still saw one bulbul on occasions; then in July I saw the two birds *tete-e-tete* on a standard tree in the centre of the aviary, and again I made a search for nests or young, but it was a futile one—it was disappointing, for the birds were in the pink of condition, plenty of natural cover and not too much company. Later in the month my gardener went up to the aviary to fetch something therefrom, and on his return to my "holding" he said "there is quite a nice nest, containing one egg, white with blackish spots; it's quite close to the wire-netting, almost by the door as you enter the aviary, quite buried in with convolvulus; one of the birds flying out drew my attention thereto." Thus he explained the event. I was not back at the house that day till twilight, but I investigated matters early the next morning and found things much as the gardener had stated. The nest was interesting, and owing to its position and not being of normal shape I thought a photo of same would prove of interest. The nest was, in fact, a slung

Photo E. O. Page.

Nest of Red-vented Bulbul.

cradle, suspended by distinct grass-ropes, with no support near its base, and semi-circular in shape. It was attached to loganberry stems, which had grown through the netting from the outside of the aviary, completely walled in with rampant convolvulus. Three twigs, fully one eighth of an inch in diameter, formed the rim of the cradle, the ends of two of which projected slightly through the netting, from which hung the body of the nest. The nest was constructed of grass (coarse and fine), fresh, I think, when first used, and was of good substance, from rim to tip of base was six inches, the depth of the interior being over two inches; the egg was propped up so as to show in the photograph. From the base of the interior the nest was woven practically solid, having the appearance of the shell having been built first and then the interior filled in to the bird's liking—the interior was a hollow cup, and lined with fine grass and a few feathers

I regret I cannot record the rearing of young; I did not see any clutch either—just the one egg first reported. The heavy rains of late July and August caused the desertion of the nest, and then the photo was taken. The Red-vented Bulbuls are interesting inmates of a roomy aviary; their demeanour and deportment is also of much interest, but this I must leave for another yarn, merely remarking here that I did not find them quarrelsome or interfering with their fellow captives.

Personally I find it of intense interest to watch the birds nesting with all the secrecy common to their native wilds.

THE AVADAVAT (*Sporaeginthus amandava*): The second episode also includes the successful rearing of young. Last year I turned several pairs of my privately imported birds into my large aviary, where they did well, and most of them survived the winter out of doors.

These birds were not of the fiery scarlet form, but though having considerable black in their plumage were not melanistic specimens. Mr. Harper sent me two large consignments of Avadavats, and he tells me that they all came from one district. The females were typical, but the males were glistening coppery-red, slightly splashed with scarlet, with bodies and wings well spotted with white, and with a considerable area black on the underparts—the black area was regularly spotted with white, and irregularly so with coppery—and were very handsome.

I am not describing isolated specimens, but some hundreds came through, and *all* the males were as described in plumage.

In the early part of the spring I was disappointed at not seeing them go to nest, but put it down to there being three times as many males as females, and I did not care to take the risk of disturbing the other birds by catching up the surplus males, so as I had bred the avadavat on several occasions in the past I elected to let things take their course.

In late June I heard young calling to be fed, and though I located the sound I could not see the nest, but that there were young there of some kind there could be no doubt. I kept

Photo E. O. Page.

Nest of Avadavat.

the bush under close observation, being able to do so from the outside of the aviary behind a thick screen of loganberry growth. The bush in question was a Portugal laurel only 3½ feet high, with the top of same rampantly overgrown with convolvulus, and it was evident that the nest was in the head of the bush. In due course three young birds made their exit from the nest, and when I found them sleeping out of the nest I duly indulged my curiosity. The nest, as anticipated, was in the head of the bush, but most cunningly hidden, not a vestage of material being visible through the foliage, and to take the accompanying photograph quite a number of leaves had to be cut away to reveal it, and the photo was taken looking down upon the top of the bush. Little comment is needed thereupon as the nest is quite normal, of the usual spherical form with an entrance hole at the front, solidly built (walls practically one inch thick), and though there had been heavy rains the interior was quite dry.

I may interpolate here, that owing to a pair of Ring-necked Pheasants (*Phasianus torquatus*) being in the aviary herbage was rather scanty, and I have been supplying bunches of tall flowering and seeding grass from the hedgerow throughout the year. The birds have used this as nesting material mostly first picking over the seed and flower-heads.

The coarser grass stems were used for the exterior, and the finer for the interior, a few feathers also being carried in.

In conclusion I may add that all three young birds are still living, have moulted, the males, of course, being still in eclipse plumage, but their beaks are full coloured. The beaks commenced to colour when the young were about six weeks old, and the beaks were full coloured before the moult took place.

CRIMSON-CROWNED WEAVERS (*Pyromelana flammiceps*). This third episode is another case of the birds nesting secretively amid the luxuriant growth of my large garden aviary. I have a walk right round this flight, but twelve inches from the netting along the back-side of aviary I have loganberries trained; these form a dense screen through which one can observe the birds almost unnoticed, and had I but possessed the leisure I think but few nests would escape my notice, but still I find it most interesting to learn that in a flight averaging 40ft. x 30ft. the birds manage to nest and rear their young, escaping the attention of normal and attendance notice till the young are seen about. This is what occurred with my Crimson-crowned Weavers. In August last Mrs. K. L. Miller, a late enthusiastic bird-keeper, was staying here and spent a good bit of time in the garden with my sisters, watching and observing the birds, not only while resting on the lawn, but also from the back path through the aforementioned screen of loganberry. One evening when I came in and went into the garden she said to me: "Mr. Page, are you aware that you have at least two young birds in the aviary; they are fawn-coloured streaked with dark brown?" She then showed me where she had seen them. We watched and searched (from the outside) for them without success, and it was not till two or three days after she had left that I saw them, though I had been looking for them constantly since being informed there were young about. Then, quite unexpectedly, I discovered them; I was watching the birds through the loganberry-screen from the back walk about 4 p.m., when I saw indistinctly something move in the dense interior of a golden-privet bush and stood very still, waiting for a clearer sight of it; while doing so the Crimson-crowned Weaver cock entered the bush and fed, not one, but two young—at least, so I presumed—birds. I had to leave almost at once, as it was time to feed the poultry, and so I did not get a clear sight of them. The following afternoon I entered the aviary and closely examined the bush, when two young birds and the cock Crimson-crown flew out and perched right in the open. I then pulled the convolvulus apart and searched for the nest, which was well formed, and well hidden in the densest part of the bush, and covered in by a perfect tangle of the common, white-flowered, bindweed. The front of the nest was torn away, but whether this was done prior to, or after the young had made their exit, I cannot say.

The young birds resembled their mother, but were paler and with the markings less distinct. They were tawny-brown in colour, striated with blackish-brown; a little down, or hair, still showed above the feathers of the crown.

Both are still living, and now (Oct. 15th) quite independent of their parents, but have not yet moulted. They were reared on regurgitated seed and fresh grass seed, also a fairly considerable number of winged insects, which their parents hunted and captured in the aviary.

Perhaps the most disappointing feature of all these three episodes is the failing to acquire but little direct data; this is not owing so much to the size and arrangement of the aviary lending itself to secretive nesting, but having so little leisure observation was very casual.

It was not possible to get a photo of the Weaver's nest without mutilating the bush too much, and I did not care to risk this till the birds were independent, fearing to drive them from the shelter of the bush. By the time they were fending for themselves, the rains and the birds has so flatetned out the nest that it looked little more than a shapless mass.

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Editorial.

A NOTE ON THE BREEDING OF THE HILL PARTRIDGE (*Arbicola torqueola*) NEAR SIMLA.

"So little appears to be known regarding the breeding of this " common but little observed bird that it is of interest to set on record some " particulars of a nest which was obtained for me about 5,000ft. near " Mahasso, Simla, by a valued correspondent this year.

"The nest was found on 25th April through the flushing of the " parent birds, but although they had betrayed the approximate whereabouts of the nest, it was discovered only after a careful search; there " were then seven eggs; on the 27th April there were still only seven eggs, " but eight were found the next morning. On the 2nd May it was found " that another and last egg had been laid, making in all a clutch of nine. " On each of these subsequent visits neither parent was seen, and the eggs " were invariably cold, yet from the placing of grass over the entrance " hole there was no doubt that the eggs were not deserted.

"As I had insisted on complete authentication of the eggs, endeavours were made to snare a bird at the nest, but a first attempt with horsehair nooses was unsuccessful; so on the 7th May a gut noose was set and " the nest visited a second time in the evening. There had been a hailstorm, and hailstones were lying thickly around; my correspondent on " arriving at the nest was astonished to find it completely covered over with " grass, and while looking at this and wondering at the reason the bird " suddenly bounced out and was caught in mid air in his hand; the broken " gut snare was then round its neck. He kept the bird and set a fresh " noose in the entrance, and this had been disturbed next morning, though " the second bird was not caught. The eggs were then taken for me.

"The nest is described as being built in a carefully scraped out and " rounded hole in a bank; this hole measured 8½ inches in diameter. After " the removal of the nest, which was built carefully of, and domed with, " grass, with an internal diameter of 6½ inches, the actual site of this nest " was fairly open, but only a few yards away started undergrowth of the " type usually frequented by the Poera. Particular emphasis is laid on " the fact that whenever the nest was visited the eggs were quite cold, and " on the fact of concealing the entrance of the nest with grass whether the " bird was sitting or absent.

"The eggs when blown were found to be slightly incubated to an "equal extent. They are in shape of a very pointed oval, verging almost "on the pyriform, of a very fine texture, faintly pitted, and with a rather "pronounced gloss. The colour is an almost pure white, with no marking. "The eggs measure from 42.5 to 46 m.m. in length, and 32.5 to 34 in "breadth; the average comes to 44 by 33.2 m.m."

Jang, Punjab, *20th July, 1919.* HUGH WHISTLER, F.Z.S.,
Indian Police.

DIFFERENT BIRDS NESTING IN COMPANY.

"There is in my compound a palm tree, the name of which I am "afraid I do not know, which has the following nests in it:—

"Common Myna, 2 nests with young.
"Bengal Red-vented Bulbul with young.
"Ashy Swallow Shrike with young.
"Spotted Munia building.
"Magpie Robin with eggs.

"The leaves of this tree form natural hollows where they join the "trunk and are ideal nesting sites. The tree is about 35ft. high."

Darjeeling, *10th July, 1919.* W. H. MATTHEWS.

NESTING NOTES: Several of our members appear to have had a fairly successful season, the bulk of the items having been already noted in this column.

BLUE BUDGERIGARS: Several have been successful with this form. From two pairs of pure Blues Mr. Hebb has bred 28 young birds, all true to colour. To save him correspondence we had better state he has none left for disposal.

Mrs. Burgess, too, has successfully bred pure Blues, also such colour forms as Apple-, Olive-, and Jade-green varieties.

Mr. W. J. Marsden has also met with success with Blue and other colour varieties of Budgerigars, and promises notes later.

The Hon. Mrs. G. Bourke has bred two young Blues from a cock pure Blue mated to a three-quarter blue-bred Green hen; of which she furnishes the following details:—

"The two young Blue Budgerigars were bred from a "French imported Blue cock, and a Green, blue-bred, hen; "the latter being the produce of blue hen and a three-quarter "blue-green cock. From a clutch of five eggs only two "hatched out. All the birds were flying together in a small "aviary out of doors from April to October; and I had two "other nests each from pairs of Blue cocks mated with Green "hens; one of which produced some young Green birds;

"other clutches failed to hatch with either nests, owing, I "think, to the nest-boxes having too flat bottoms, and the "eggs rolling about and getting chilled. I have now "procured a Blue hen, and have great hopes for next year."

HYBRID GOLDFINCH × HIM. SISKIN: From our adverts it will be seen that Mr. Shore Baily has reared this hybrid. Will he kindly oblige with a description and other details?

◆

Correspondence.

MAIMING OF YOUNG STANLEY PARRAKEETS.

SIR,—I am inclined to think that Mr. Smith's young Stanley Parrakeet was killed by the hen, and the feathers on the neck and tail afterwards nibbled off by mice.

I lost several young Rosellas in this way some years since. The hen Rosella went to nest the second time, and then evidently resented the young ones pestering her for food. I saved one young bird, after its having been bitten in this way, and the next season, in spite of its having no upper mandible, it reared some fine young ones.

Westbury, October 14th, 1920. W. SHORE BAILY

RECORDS OF BIRDS WHICH HAVE BRED IN CAPTIVITY.

SIR,—In my record of Birds which have bred in Captivity there are a good many corrections to make.

One of these refers to the two Siskins, *Spinus tibetanus* (Hume), the SIKHIM SISKIN, and *Hypacanthis spinoides* (Vigors), the HIMALAYAN SISKIN. These two birds are both often known as "Himalayan Siskins;" hence the confusion in the entries dealing with them.

Of *H. spinoides* I gave the first breeder as

"Teschemaker 1914. See Bird Notes 1914, 278."

I believe now that this entry should be transferred to *S. tibetanus*, and be replaced by

"1st Shore Baily, 1918. See A.M. 1919, 92."

IS THIS SO?

As regards Hybrids the entries are:

Himalayan Siskin × Greenfinch, Bright, 1916. See Bird Notes 1916, 83.

Greenfinch × Himalayan Siskin, Bright. See Bird Notes 1917,195.

Himalayan Siskin/Greenfinch Hybrid × Greenfinch, Bright, see B.N. 1917 195

WHICH SISKIN IS THIS, *Tibetanus* or *spinoides*?

The other hybrid entry is

Greenfinch × Sikhim Siskin (*H. spinoides*). Shore Baily. See A.M. 1919, 92

This, I presume, is certainly *spinoides*.

Can the breeders or others answer these questions, or help towards the correction of the record.

September 26th, 1920. E. HOPKINSON.

[We believe we are correct in stating that the species bred by Mr. Teschemaker in 1914 was *tibetanus*, and that by Mr. Shore Baily in 1918 was *spinoides*. As regards Mr. Bright's hybrids the species used was *spinoides*. —Ed.]

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Book Notices and Reviews.

A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK OF BRITISH BIRDS: By various authors, edited by H. F. Witherby, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., with numerous half-tone and coloured illustrations. In 18 parts, price 4s. 6d. per part. London: Witherby and Co., 326, High Holborn, W.C., 1.

Part IX. This, the first part of the second volume, well maintains the reputation of the earlier parts. To repeat ourselves, for concise comprehensity, ease of access, minute detail of plumage, habits, distribution, etc., it is the *last word*, to date, on our native avifauna, and, though its phraseology is terse indeed, its merit is beyond praise. It is, what it claims to be, A Practical Handbook of B.B. This part deals with the ORDERS CYPSELI (Swifts), CAPRIMULGI (Nightjars), MEROPES (Bee-eaters), UPUPÆ (Hoopos), CORACIÆ (Rollus), HALCYONES (Kingfishers), PICI (Woodpeckers and Wrynecks), CUCULI (Cuckoos), and STRIGES (Owls) is commenced. There is an exquisite half-tone plate of 11 busts of owls—Europ. Hawk-Owl, White-breast. Barn-Owl, Snowy Owl, Short-eared Owl, Long-eared Owl, Little Owl, Juv. and Ad. Tawn Owl, and Tengmalm's Owl—with practical text figures on almost every page.

We congratulate all who have shared in its compilement, on their achievement. It lies in all public and educational establishment libraries, and on the bookshelves of naturalists, bird-students and bird-lovers generally.

◆

Post Mortem Reports.

Green Budgerigar. Capt. Rice.—The bird was very fat, probably due to the change from aviary to cage life. The actual cause of death was bronchitis, to which over-fat birds are extremely liable.

Rhea. E. H. Curney, Esq.—This bird had died of over distention of the stomach, which was full of grass, weighing 3 lbs. The stomach filled the whole body cavity and probably caused death by pressure on the heart.

N. S. LUCAS, M.B., F.Z.S.

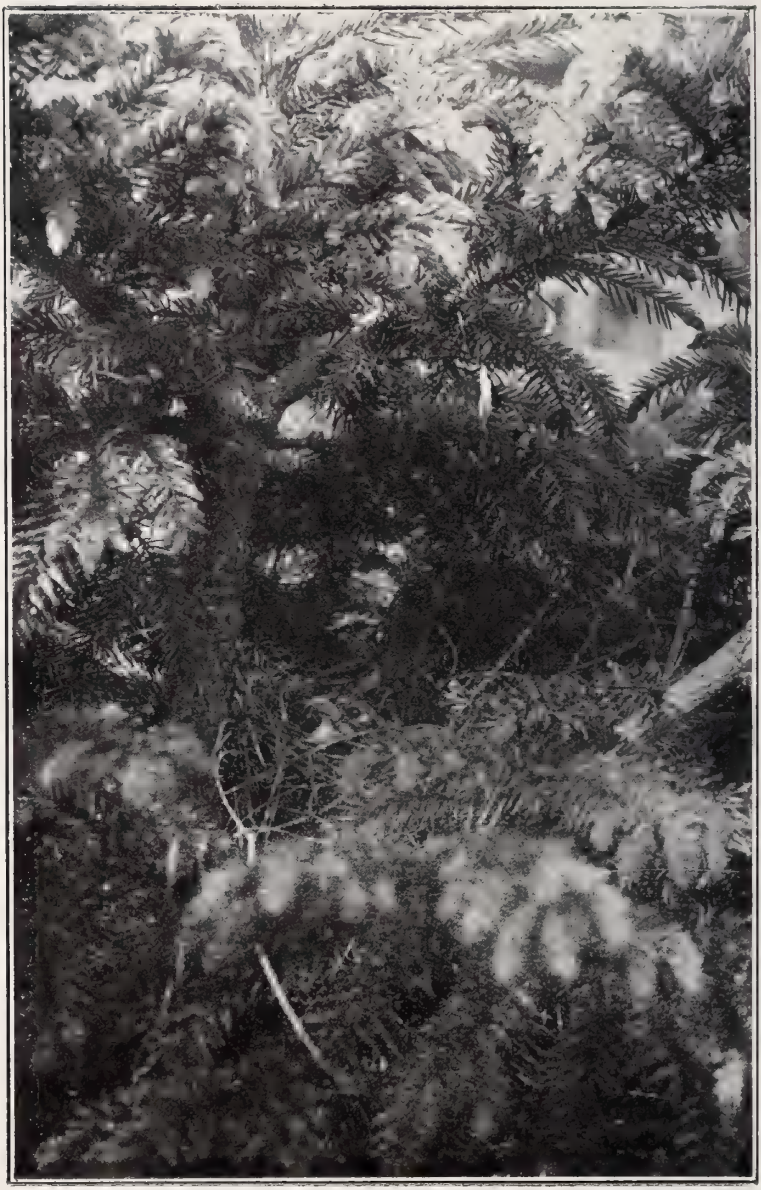
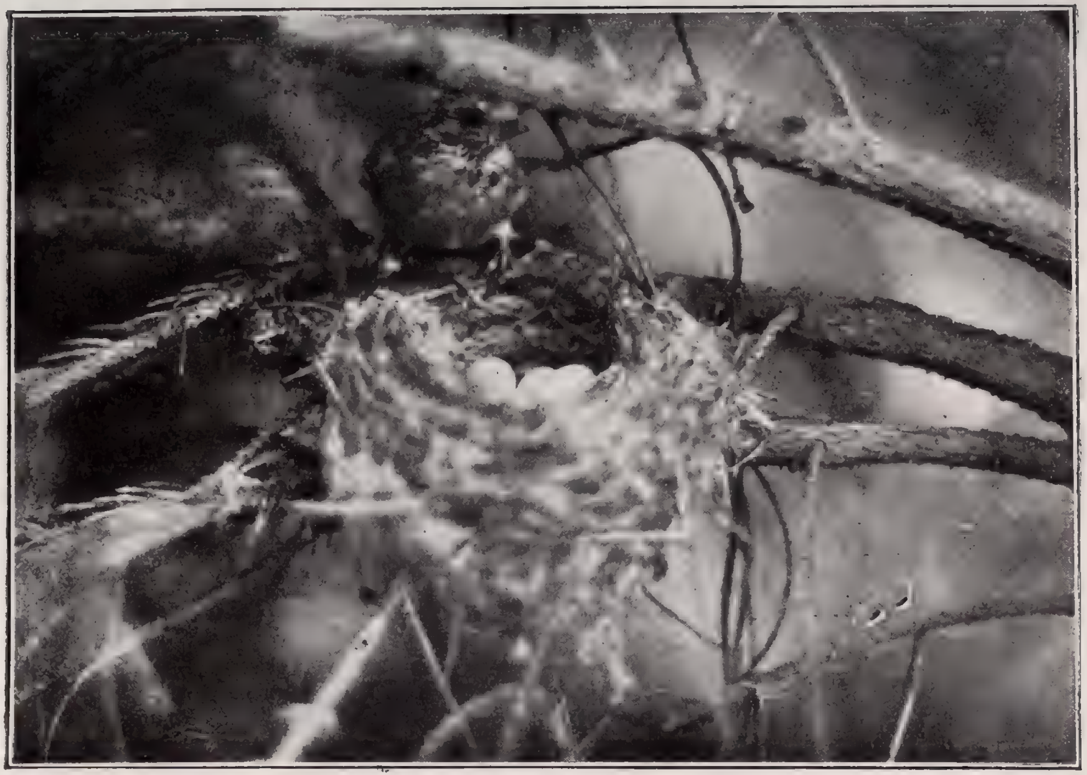


Photo W. Shore Baily.

Orchard Finch incubating.



Yellow-rumped Serin at nest.

Photo W. Shore Baily

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BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

Some Finches in My Aviaries

BY W. SHORE BAILY.

I think the most interesting members of my collection of Finches this season were the Orchard Finches (*Phrygilus fruticeli*). These birds originally belonged to Dr. Amsler, and an account of their successful nesting appeared in this Magazine for the year 1915.

Orchard Finch feeding young. *Photo W. Shore Baily.*

About the middle of last April they went to nest in my largest aviary, the hen building a neat nest of roots and twigs in the stumps of a tree; two rather large eggs, pale bluish green, thickly marked with brown, were laid; these as the season was early, I took for my collection. The hen soon went to nest again, this time in the heart of a black spruce (see photo). Incubation commenced on May 4th, and thirteen days later two young ones were hatched. For a week things went smoothly, and the young ones made good progress, and then a disaster occurred; the cock escaped from the aviary, and, as I was away at the time, it was not recaptured. The good little hen, however, kept on feeding the young, and on May 27th one left the nest. Up to this time no soft food or mealworms had been provided, but, as the hen was now beginning to feel the strain of catering for two hungry youngsters, I started handing out mealworms, and very soon she would come at call and take them out of my hand. The second youngster left the nest at the end of the month, and was then quite well feathered. Unfortunately it was killed, either by another bird, or by fracturing its skull against the wire. The survivor soon grew to be as big as its mother, and was hardly to be distinguished in colour. Strange to say, this bird, when about three months old, also made its escape from the aviary, and, as we were unable to discover where it had made its egress, I had it, on its recapture, transferred to another aviary. I am hoping that it may turn out to be a male.

Another pair of Finches that went to nest about the same time were Yellow-rumped Serins (*Serinus angolensis*). These pretty little birds built a nest in a spruce fir and laid four spotted white eggs. These hatched in ten days. Both birds fed the young, and I thought that they would soon leave the nest, but a spell of bad weather set in, and the hen caught a chill and died, and the cock then deserted his nearly fledged family.

My Grey Singing Finches (*S. leucopygius*) were equally unlucky. They built two of the most beautiful little nests that I have seen—nests very little bigger than some of the Humming Birds', but their eggs were taken by other birds on both occasions.

My English Greenfinch hen, mated with a hybrid Greenfinch cock, went to nest twice, but laid no eggs. The second time I supplied her with some Cape Sparrow eggs; these she hatched out and fed the young for six or seven days, when they died, probably from an insufficiency of insect food.

Yellow-rumped hen brooding young.

Photo W. Shore Baily.

My Sikhim Siskin (*Hypacanthis spinoides*), mated with a cock Goldfinch, again reared some pretty hybrids rather late in the season, her first nest having been interfered with by other birds. The young cock hybrids make very sweet singers. They naturally vary a good deal in colour. A description of one of the prettiest of them is as follows:—Forehead, throat, shoulders, rump, and a wide bar on wings, bright orange yellow; crown and nape, wings and tail, and a spot on cheeks, black; face and cheeks, lemon; back, pale rufous; breast and underparts, white.

My Redheaded Finches (*Amadina erythocephala*), of which I have two pairs, were also failures. Two young ones left the nest early in May, but cold wet weather intervened, and I found them and their mother dead one morning. The other pair had several nests, but no young were reared.

My last success was with Cuba Finches (*Phonipara canora*). These charming little fellows went to nest late in September, and reared three young ones. As it happened, the weather this fall was much more genial than it was in the Spring, and consequently several pairs of birds went to nest, quite late in the year. At the time of writing, the third week in October, the Cuba Finches are again incubating. They have made a rather untidy nest in the top of a tall artichoke, and I am sure that the first heavy rain will cause it to collapse. However, as I am just about to take all my small birds indoors, they will in any case have no chance of rearing a second family.

Zebra Finches (*Taeniopygia castanotis*), two pairs, also failed to rear young. They only made one attempt at nesting—a very unusual occurrence with these usually free breeders. It is probable that fresh, imported, blood is wanted.

◆

My Red-naped Lorikeets *(Trichoglossus rubritorques)*

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

I have not had this gorgeous species for some six years, but well I remember the lovely pair I then possessed—they found their way into my favour at once by their tameness and familiarity, in fact I have never seen any since to equal them in this respect, for they were uncannily tame. While they were in my possession the late Canon Dutton came to see my birds and their tameness and familiarity surprised, interested and charmed him, for afterwards he wrote several letters of enquiry concerning them. It was not only those they were familiar with, but they would fly on to the shoulder or arm of anyone that entered the aviary—the utmost stranger was merely a perch for them; strangers were a little alarmed at first when they received playful tweaks from their needle-pointed beaks, but they never drew blood, and fear soon passed into pleasure. They ate nearly all their fruit from the hand, and, not unduly to prolong the yarn, it was difficult to leave the aviary without bringing them out on one's shoulder; in fact this happened on one occasion, but they made no attempt to fly away, and remained on my shoulder while I re-entered the aviary, where I took them from my person and placed them on a perch.

They did not breed with me; such extremely tame birds rarely do, but this species has reared young on several occasions in a large cage in the Parrot House of the London Zoo, and they have bred quite freely in the aviaries of Mr. E. J. Brook.

Their diet with me was a very varied one, but their staple food was ripe fruit and milk-sop; they also took some seed, and ate with gusto fresh seeding grass, chickweed, groundsel and dandelion. A bunch of flowers, mostly dandelion and garden marigolds, they delighted in, sucking them dry of nectar, eating the pollen and finally the greater portion of the flowers.

I have had a personal acquaintance with many Red-napes, and I have been astonished at the individualism common to respective pairs of this species. My pair burrowed like rats, and frequently I have looked for them in vain in the aviary, only to see later their heads peeping out of a burrow, but directly they heard anyone walking in the aviary they came out at once, to have a chat and so relieve the tedium of the day. To such an extent did they carry their burrowing propensities that I had to put slate and netting into the ground to prevent them burrowing from one enclosure to another.

I fancy the pair I am writing about were hand-reared birds; I got them from the Australian trappers, Messrs. Payne and Wallace, shortly after the landing of a large consignment of birds, to see which I made a special journey from London to the " Little Zoo " at Bath.

At the London Zoo one, if not more, hybrid was reared between this species and Forsten's Lorikeet (*T. forsteni*), which in plumage was intermediate between the two species; if anything the Red-nape was the most dominant.

Apart from their taking ways, their rich colouration and brilliant beauty make them a feature in any aviary, and usually call forth a whole host of exclamations from visitors thereto. Of course, an aviculturist, when acquiring birds, does not think of visitors, but of his own interest and pleasure, but a pair of birds, such as I am describing, causes the other members of the family (who mostly look upon his hobby as a nuisance as filling the garden with buildings and noisy bird calls) to view his hobby with less intolerance and disgust. A very strong point in this bird's favour.

Well, my little yarn is ended, but I may perhaps add that the Red-nape is more suited to the aviary than to a cage, for the latter needs considerable attention to keep it clean and sweet. I will also add that the Red-nape is hardy and may be safely kept out of doors all the year round, for during severe weather, when the milk-sop has been frozen hard, they have eaten it in that state before one went to the aviary to minister to their needs.

When, owing to a change of residence, I had to dismantle my aviaries and part with many birds, I packed none away with greater regret than my Red-naped Lorikeets, and I hope the day may not be distant when I possess this species again.

◆

Rearing Ringed Plovers from the Egg.

By W. G. Percival.

At the request of the Editor, as being of general interest, I am re-writing an account of the successful rearing of this species in 1901.

On May 11th, 1901, I took a clutch of four eggs of the Ringed Plover (*Ægiatilis hiaticola*, Linn.), and while drilling one in order to remove its contents, I found that the young bird was on the point of being hatched. I at once put the remaining three into an incubator, in company with a number of fowls' eggs. Two of them were chipped on the following morning, and the young birds emerged about six o'clock the same evening. The third egg produced a weakly chick the next evening, but this one only lived till the 28th. As soon as the young were hatched I transferred them to an incubator by themselves. They were not able to stand up on their feet for some hours, and I noticed that they took some time to get thoroughly dry.

Food was the next problem; to meet this I took my water-net and collected a lot of weed from a pond which was close at hand.

The next morning I placed the chicks in an open box in the conservatory, and put beside them some of the pond-weed, which contained a number of minute insects. After a few minutes one of them began to peck about a little, but they would not feed properly. They soon got cold, and had to be replaced in the incubator for the rest of the day.

On the 14th I placed them in a large glass case (about 5ft. by 18in.) on which the sun was shining, having previously covered the floor with sand. They at once began to run about in a very lively manner, and to pick up insects from the weed which I offered them; but directly a cloud came over the case they became dull, and soon lay down and appeared to be dying, so again I had to return them to the incubator, where the warmth soon revived them.

After this they were put out for a short time each day while the sun was shining, and I sometimes allowed them loose on the lawn, where they caused much amusement and interest as they ran about catching insects, in the pursuit of which they frequently overbalanced themselves. When I attempted to catch them they would not always run away, but frequently crouched close to the ground, following, no doubt, their natural instinct, by which they often escape detection, when young, by hiding among the pebbles on the seashore.

For the first two weeks they were fed entirely on water insects, such as dragon-fly larvae, gnat grubs, etc., but then I thought I would try a change of food, so I dug up some ants' nests and put them in the case where they were kept. They seemed to like this and eagerly picked out the cocoons; they also showed a liking for gentles, and after a time would take small mealworms. Now and then, when very hungry, they would eat a little hard-boiled egg and small pieces of meat, but very seldom, and only when nothing else was left. When hungry they constantly uttered a sharp, shrill cry, and would always answer me if I whistled to them. After they were able to fly, I often let them loose in a large and lofty billiard room which was not in use, and they would fly about for some time, appearing to enjoy their comparative liberty.

They were very fond of bathing, and, when their dish of water was placed in their case, they would rush at it and jump and make a great fuss, often remaining in the water some time; then they would come out almost drowned; but as soon as they got a bit dry in they would go again. But tney were particular that the water should be clean.

I regret that I made but one or two notes of the growth of the feathers. On June 1st, the twentieth day after they were hatched, the primary feathers were half an inch long, and the body feathers were pust beginning to show under the down.

I always put them into the incubator at night until they were about two months old, and then I kept them in a closed cage in a warm room. During the day they were kept in a covered-in wired run. When they were about twelve weeks old, a tragedy occurred which caused me to lose them both. A Magpie managed to sieze and kill one through the wire, and the other chick died soon after, either from fright or solitude.

I think this, at the time at any rate, was the first time of rearing this interesting species from the egg, and if there are any later occurrences of similar success I should like to hear of them.

I also reared a Moorhen in the same way

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Acclimatisation in the Isle of Mauritius.

By Paul Garie.

[This article appeared in the *Buletin de la Société Nationale d' Acclimation* for September 1916. We reprint the following extracts therefrom (translated by Maj. A. E. Snape, R.A.F.) with our apologies and thanks to the Author and Editors.—Ed. B.N.]

21. *Agapornis cana*, Gm.

Though it is generally considered that these small paroquets have been introduced from Madagascar, we venture to differ on this point from all the authors who have described the ornithological fauna of the isle. We base this opinion on two passages: one from Leguat (1), (*vide* Oustalet, lx. it) in which he says, "Parrots of all kinds abound there." This supports a passage in vol. i., where he speaks of "green and blue parrots which are found there in great number" (i.e. at Rodriguez). Dubois, on the other hand, after speaking of the Grey Parrots of Bourbon (*Mascarinus Duboisi*) and the *Palcornis eques*, adds: "Parrots of three kinds, as above, which are no bigger than Blackbirds."

Bernardin de Saint-Pierre: "I have seen several kinds of parrots there, but of no great beauty. There is a kind of green parrot with a grey hood. They are big as Sparrows; one can never tame them. They destroy the crops; they are rather good to eat."

Milbert (2): "I was diverted from these painful feelings by the beauty of the small paroquets which flew above the trees and were so light that they rested on the most slender plants without making them bend. The plumage of this pretty bird is generally light green, with a shade of grey on the head, the throat, the front of the neck; for this reason Buffon has named it the grey-headed paroquet." This traveller frequently dwells on these birds, which proves that they were very numerous at the beginning of the 19th century. They still exist throughout the isle. In summer they go in pairs, covering a wide space around their nest. which is built in the hollow of some dead tree. In winter they unite in small bands of 8 to 15, probably all the brood. Their flight is extremely rapid, oblique, zigzag; they look like green bats. M. d' Emmerez de Charmoy obtained in 1912 several eggs from a pair in captivity; they were light, white, elliptical, almost globular.

(1) vol. 2. p. 72. (2) vol. 1. p. 294.

22. *Otocompsa emeria*, Linné.

I have already described the introduction of this bird to Mauritius (1). In 1911 the *Bulletin agricole de l'île Maurice* (p. 531) confirmed what I had said, but meanwhile the *Mauricien*, one of the local papers, put back acclimatization to a much more distant date—about 1880; but this theory must be wrong, for it is impossible that so prolific a bird should escape observation for a dozen years at a time when the ornithological fauna was being carefully studied by several naturalists.

To what I have already said about this bird I shall add that it has multiplied at a fantastic rate. The cause of this tremendous reproduction at first puzzled me, for the Bulbul lays only three eggs, rarely four; I did once see five eggs in a nest. But breeding begins in July and ends in May. Hatching lasts from 12 to 14 days, and the rearing of the young about as long. As, moreover, eggs are again laid almost as soon as the young have left the nest, we can gain some idea of the number of yearly breedings—at least eight. The nest is built comparatively quickly, though skilfully twined, but the Bulbuls do not hesitate to appropriate those of the *Zosterops*, adding a few blades of grass. The nests are built a very little distance from the ground. I have seen same at a foot, the highest not more than six feet. Feathers appear four days after the hatching, and a dozen days later the young birds have left the nest. In a few weeks they wear the plumage of the adult. The eggs vary in shape from oval to the ordinary egg-shape; they are white, with very close reddish-brown spots, the position and shade of which vary enormously.

The food of these birds is most varied. In the hundreds of crops that I have examined I have found fruit pulp, grass seeds, various plants, and elytra of the weevil. They refuse nothing; petals of the sweet pea, the green pea, any sort of flower (even, unhappily, those of the vanilla), fruits of every kind, berries, and if a dry season deprives them of these the pulp of the sugar-canes, which during harvest are scattered about the roads; even the sugar itself is not despised. They were seen in 1911 on the bags in the docks, tasting the grains (Bul. Agr. 1911, p. 564).

(1) Bull. Soc. Acc. fr. 1910, p. 462.

That is not the extent of their crimes; they are one of the causes of the disappearance of the native fauna. Since 1911 the diminution in the number of *Zosterops*, so plentiful before, has been remarkable. One of my men has several times brought me these birds which he had found dead by the roadside. Popular rumour accused the Bulbuls, and before long one had to admit the evidence. They assault these little birds, and take possession of their nests after devouring the eggs. Recent observations made by d'Emmerez de Charmoy have confirmed this fact.

The great Epeira of Madagascar, formerly so abundant, and so useful, in spite of its repulsive appearance, has disappeared almost completely. Mr. Walter, director of the Observatory, who employed threads of these spiders for certain delicate astronomical instruments, had to pay up to two rupees (3 fr. 30) a spider to procure some. The Bulbuls have destroyed them.

The Bulbuls have a marked tendency to albinism. In 1910 a specimen was taken to the Museum of Port-Louis; others followed. The Natural History Museum possesses one that I had in September 1911.

24. *Serinus canicollis*, Swains.

" It is impossible to hide the ravages of the Cape-bird, a kind of small siskin, the only one of the inhabitants of these forests that I have heard sing. They were brought at first out of curiosity, but a few escaped into the woods, where they have multiplied greatly. They live at the expense of the crops. The government has set a price on their heads."

(B. de Saint-Pierre. *Voyage à l'Ile de France.*

Whether it is really this species or the next which is concerned is a difficult matter to establish, for it seems that both were acclimatized about the same time. The Cape Canary has almost entirely disappeared from the island ,and the last mention of it was in 1893, when it existed still at the bottom of an extinct crater, the Stag-hole.

The song of the Mustard-pot, as it is called in Reunion where it is fairly common, recalls that of the Canary; I discovered, in June 1898, a nest at Salazie (isle of Reunion) which contained two blue eggs, slightly spotted with brown. The nest was a yard from the ground, in a bush of tree-heath (? arborescent heath).

25. *Serinus icterus*, Vicil

The Mozambique Canary is very common. It is rarely found at a lower altitude than 1,200 feet. It lives for choice in the forests of the Casuarinas, and builds its nest there at a height which varies from 15 to 45 feet. The nest is a small cup of hair or grass, in which the bird lays three bluish eggs, slightly spotted with brown at the big end. Nests are, however, found on other trees, though more rarely.

The laying takes place in October, with a second laying in March. The hatching lasts from 12 to 14 days, and the young birds leave the nest after 16 days. These birds are entirely granivorous.

They live in numerous flocks, either in the woods or the fields. From April to September flocks are formed containing several hundreds of Canaries, Foudis, Astrilds, which traverse the cultivated fields. At one's approach they rise in veritable clouds. The community disbands at the nesting season.

26. *Munia oryzivora*, Linne.

"The Calfat," says Milbert, "is one of the prettiest birds which adorn the forests. According to M. Sonnini, it is a kind of Yellowhammer, described first by Commerson. The size of this bird is between the Sparrow and the Linnet; all the upper part is of an ashy blue; the top of the head and the throat, black; breast and belly wine-coloured, with the beak and feet rose-colour. The noise which it makes with its beak in striking the bark of the trees to bring out the insects resembles the noise made with their tools by the workmen called calfats when they pack with tow the interstices between the planks of ships. This is what has given the bird its somewhat curious name." (*Voyage à l'Ile de France*, vol. 2, p. 250).

I have reproduced this paragraph, which contains almost as many mistakes as words, only on account of the explanation which Milbert gives of the bird's name. I cannot say why, but if there is a species hardly insectivorous at all, it is certainly this. It must have been introduced, like so many others, about the middle of the 18th century, and its ravages among the grain-crops soon became so serious that at a time when a slave-owner was, by the order of May 7th, 1770, obliged to deliver annually ten heads of birds for each slave, five heads only of the calfat were considered an equivalent. This species has vanished from Mauritius. I have not seen a young one taken from the nest since 1892.

27. *Munia punctulata*, L., var. *risoria*, Temm.

This bird, known by the name of Pingo, must have been introduced a great while ago. Its nest, which, like that of the *Estrilda astrilda*, is horn-shaped, is made of coarser materials. While the Bengali chooses only the ears, the *Munia* uses stalks and leaves alike. The nest is usually placed at the top of some tall and bushy tree. The eggs number from 6 to 10. They are white, and longer and bigger than those of the *Astrild.*

After leaving the nest, the young remain the whole winter with their parents. They form small bands of about a dozen, and rarely mix with the other Grosbeaks. They have a fondness for the cultivated fields; on the roads bordering these they find the grasses whose seeds constitute their principal food.

28. *Estrilda astrilda*, Linné.

The graceful, red-cheeked Astrild is one of the widest-spread inhabitants of our fields and forests. Its introduction must be of very ancient date. These little birds, except at the breeding season, always live in big flocks. In the evening they collect in hundreds and shelter for the night in the clumps of bamboo or in heavily foliaged trees, just as the garden sparrows do in the ivy-tods of some old wall or tree.

Laying takes place twice a year—September-October, and February-March. The second brood is almost always destroyed by the tempests which are so frequent during these summer months. The nest, of which the accompanying photograph gives an exact idea, is a marvellous construction. The base is horn-shaped, with a rather short and very narrow neck. Above this bottle is a shelter for the male; the whole is carpeted and wrapped with the finest stalks and leaves. The material is generally grass stalks, but I have one nest made of acacia leaves, and another of the leafy stalks of the asparagus.

The eggs number from 10 to 16; they are white, rounded, and transparent. Incubation lasts from 12 to 13 days, and the young leave the nest on the 14th day.

If one removes the birds from the nest without destroying it, it often happens that a second laying takes place immediately. Even if the nest is removed, the birds will, if they are particularly attached to the tree, begin to build once more.

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Some Birds I have kept.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

Though I may, if need arise, write further instalments under above title, each one will be complete in itself; I am not commencing a serial article, and I am choosing species which I hope may prove of general interest.

WEAVERS: Of these I have successfully bred the following species:

Red-billed Weaver (*Quelea quelea*).
Napoleon Weaver (*Pyromelana afra*).
Taha Weaver (*P. taha*).
Crimson-crowned Weaver (*P. flammiceps*).

I have also kept Orange, Madagascar, Grenadier, Half-masked, Black-fronted, Speke's, Rufous-necked, Black-headed, Golden, and Brown-backed Weavers, etc.; but these have not bred with me. Though, in the nesting season I have found them all to be of a somewhat obstreperous demeanour, yet I have not found them to be of a murderous disposition; though, undoubtedly, they have disturbed the more quietly disposed, I have not found them either to attack or seriously chase about any of their fellow captives, and at the present time I have a cock Rufous-necked Weaver (a reputedly pugnacious species) in my large aviary, which contains a very mixed series of birds, but, undoubtedly, this species and also the Orange and Madagascar Weavers have wrought considerable havoc in more than one aviary, so, as regards these three species the aviarist must ascertain the demeanour of his individual specimens before considering them safe members of his mixed series, especially so if the aviary be but a small one.

One of the chief charms of the Weaver-family is that they are nearly all subject to an eclipse plumage, *i.e.*, at the end of the breeding season they shed their gorgeous nuptial, many-hued garment, for a very modest one of various shades of brown. Weavers are a grand sight in a roomy garden aviary during the breeding season, and their exuberant obstroperousness but adds to the charm, and keeps them always " in the picture."

Again, another point of interest is the wonderful nests they weave, varying to some extent in shape and size with each species. They are indefatigable builders, and odd males are just as busily occupied in this respect as truly mated pairs, though a bachelor's nest is seldom carried to the point of completion, yet his constructions make snug night quarters, not only for himself, but for many other birds, for he builds in the course of the season very many more than he can occupy himself.

As regards food and treatment: this is a simple matter; canary and white millet seed, with greenfood, and some live insects when they are feeding young, about completes their simple "Bill of Fare." True, they will greedily gorge on millet sprays; pretty obects they are too while so engaged, but this is not essential, though forming a welcome change in the menu.

I have never lived farther north than the midlands, and with me the weaver-tribe have always thriven out of doors all the year round.

WHYDAHS: These also are a grand feature in a mixed collection, and, though I have not found them guilty of actual violence, they are a more disturbing influence in an aviary than our friends the Weavers. In many aviaries the Pin-tailed Whydah has caused both serious confusion and tragedy. I have kept,but not bred, the following species:

Pin-tailed Whydah (*Vidua principalis*).
Queen Whydah (*V. regia*).
Paradise Whydah (*Steganura paradisea*).
Red-collared Whydah (*Penthetria ardens*).
Giant (Long-tailed) Whydah (*Chera procne*).
Jackson's Whydah (*Drepanoplectes jacksoni*).

I did not, of course, keep the five species in the same aviary all at the same time, in fact I make a rule of never having more than two species of whydahs in the aviary together, however large the aviary may be. The Pin-tailed Whydah I always relegate to an aviary, in which large and vigorous species are kept, and there he can do no harm, but will suffer humiliating defeat if he prove too aggressive.

Several species of whydahs have been successfully bred in our member's aviaries (W. Shore Baily, W. E. Teschemaker, Duchess of Wellington, etc.), and accounts of their successes have appeared in this Journal, and to these I refer my reader.

Of the smaller whydahs the Paradise and Queen are my favourites, and I have never found either of these species to do any harm, even to the smallest waxbill. The Paradise is very self-opinionated, a failing not altogether unknown among genus Homo; he is well aware of his fine appearance when clad in his nuptial robes, and does not forget to show himself off, but we forgive him this little weakness as it keeps him in the picture, an object of admiration to all observers. The Queen (this name belongs to both male and female) is of a more retiring disposition, though even more beautiful than the Paradise; still, it is not a skulker amid the foliage, and is nearly always on view, when one walks along, or sits at, the aviary front—and this applies when one is renewing food supplies.

Diet and general treatment, same as for Weavers.

WAXBILLS: These charming wee mites are ideal subjects for the mixed aviary, and mostly may be kept together in any number commensurate with the size of the aviary, *i.e.*, several pairs of the same species may be kept together, providing they have space to go to nest, if they so desire, without treading on " each other's toes."

Among others I have kept the following species, and have bred those marked with an asterisk.

* Common Avadavat (*Sporaeginthus amandava*).
* Orange-cheeked Waxbill (*S. melpodus*).
* Gold-breasted Waxbill (*S. subflavus*).
Sydney Waxbill (*Ægintha temporalis*).
* St. Helena Waxbill (*Estrilda astrilda*).
Grey Waxbill (*E. cinerea*).
Blue-breasted Waxbill (*E. angolensis*).
Violet-eared Waxbill (*Granatina granatina*).

I have also kept several of the rarer species, and the one-time common Green Avadavat.

Waxbills are not, speaking generally, free breeders in captivity, though casual successes are by no means uncommon. I will instance a few.

The Common or Indian Avadavat has bred in my aviaries, and also in those of Capt. J. S. Reeve and others.

The Orange-cheeked has reared young on one occasion in my aviary, and has been successfully bred in a cage by the late Miss Rosie Alderson.

The Blue-breasted Waxbill has been rather freely bred by Dr. Amsler, who has also successfully crossed it with the Cordon Bleu.

The Sydney Waxbill has been freely bred by Mrs. Stanley Gardiner, and less so by others, The Gold-breasted Waxbill has successfully reared young in my aviaries, and also in some others.

The Grey Waxbill has only seldom bred in this country; on one occasion by our President, The Lady Dunleath, and later by Mr. W. A. Bainbridge. This species has been successfully crossed with the St. Helena Waxbill.

Violet-eared Waxbill has not, so far as I am aware, been bred in this country, though eggs have been laid on several occasions in various aviaries.

The Green Avadavat has been successfully bred by Mr. W. E. Teschemaker and one or two others.

The St. Helena Waxbill has been bred by myself, Capt. J. S. Reeve and others. It has been crossed with the Grey Waxbill (*E. cinerea*).

Waxbills, of all species, are not always easy to acclimatise, and losses are often fairly numerous among newly imported members of this family; but once they are safely over the hardships of importation and dealers' shops they are hardy and enduring; they may be safely wintered out of doors with one or two exceptions, but not in our more northern counties. I may add here that for a waxbill-aviary a roomy, well-lighted shelter is a *sine qua non*, in which they can be shut, and yet have room for plenty of exercise during abnormal weather-periods.

Some of the species, especially the Orange-cheeked, show a decided preference for nesting on the ground, weaving a spherical nest in any convenient tuft of grass, and usually so cunningly concealed by overhanging blades of grass as to be only discovered by accident. The Orange-cheeks so nested in my aviary.

Canary, Indian and white millet seeds form their main dietary; they eat greedily the seed and flowering heads of our native grasses, and it is a pretty sight indeed to see a waxbill perched on a tall panicle of grass, which sways and bends beneath its weight, busily engaged picking out the seed. In such a position the Golden-breasted in particular looks like some brilliant flower swaying in the breeze, and I have mistaken it for such on more than one occasion. As a rule these birds do not require live-food when rearing young, as they capture sufficient small flies, midges, and blight of various kinds in the aviary for their requirements.

All the above species live together in amity, and all are desirable, beautiful and interesting inmates of a roomy, naturally-planted garden aviary.

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A Beautiful Aviary Bird.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

My theme in this short note is the Green Cardinal (*Gubernatrix cristata*). I do not propose to write any article, but merely to make commendatory remarks upon its many qualifications to be classed as an admirable aviary bird.

It has great beauty and is amiable in a mixed collection.

It has many interesting characteristics and a quaint, plaintive, yet cheery call-note.

It is a free breeder and perfectly hardy.

In these three short sentences are tabulated six excellent qualities which speak for themselves, and I might add one more equally important, viz: The male and female are dissimilar in plumage, so there is no difficulty in procuring a true pair.

The beauty of the male is undeniable in whatever pose he is reviewed. In repose or hopping about on the branches he is an object of beauty—the rich green, yellow and black areas of his plumage at once attract attention; but it is when displaying to his mate that the full glory of the rich yellow of his wings and tail are displayed, then he is brilliant indeed. The hen also is a beautiful bird, but the colour tones are quieter, but whatever her mood she is always an attractive object.

They are vivacious, scarcely ever lethargic, and during the breeding season the male's intervals of silence are short indeed. They are nearly always " in the picture."

They are free breeders, but I must make one qualification, the over-ardour of the male prevents the success of some nests, however, this is a fault common to many species, and adds zest to the pursuit of aviculture; and the aviarist can mostly count on one nest per season. They are adaptable, and will accommodate themselves to any particular aviary, being quite ready to nest in a box, or to build a natural nest in any convenient bush. They are ready to rear their young when only a moderate supply of live-food is supplied.

The general *menu* is seed, fruit, green-food, and as many insects as you care to give them.

With me they have been associated with waxbills and other small passerines, and I have not a bad mark against them.

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Editorial.

We note that at recent shows the following members have been very successful, and some extremely interesting species have been placed on exhibit by the following members.

MR. P. ARNOTT.

At Glasgow Show, practically swept the boards with the following:

Pair Yellow-winged Sugarbirds, Golden-fronted Fruitsucker, Black-headed Bulbul, Violet Tanager, Red-winged Parrakeets.

Mr. Arnott was equally successful at several other Scottish shows.

THE HON. MRS. BOURKE.

At the London Inter-Club Show was very successful with a grand team of Sunbirds, etc., as follows:

Pair Blue Budgerigars, Marquesas, Double-collared Sunbirds, and Purple Sugarbirds.

MISS D. E. PETHIE.

Was very successful at Portsmouth Show—5 prizes from four exhibits, with the following:

Pair Scaly-crowned Finches, St. Helena Seedeater, pair Zebra Finches, and a cock Border Fancy Canary.

MRS. BURGESS.

At Newport Show exhibited a fine team, including several quite rare species, all of which carried off honours, as follows:

Blue Budgerigars, Peach-faced Lovebird, Tui Parrakeet, Golden-capped Conure, Mealy Rosella Parrakeet, Jendaya Conure, White-rumped Lory, Black-capped Lory, Mitchell's Red-naped and Swainson's Lorikeets; White-winged Whydah, Combasou, and Taha Weaver; Greater Bird of

Paradise, Am. Catbird, Glossy Starling, Crimson Tanager, L. H. Mynah, and last, but not least, a pair of Oven Birds.

The Article *Acclimatization in the Isle of Mauritius.* For the benefit of members unacquainted with scientific names, we give a list of those used in this article with the popular names generally used in this country.

21. *Agapornis cana.* Madagascar Lovebird, page 236.
22. *Otocompsa emeria.* Red-eared Bulbul, page 237.
24. *Serinus canicollis.* Grey-necked Serin (Cape Canary) page 239.
25. *S. icterus.* Green Singingfinch, page 239.
26. *Munia oryzivora.* Java Sparrow, page 240.
27. *M. punctulata.* Spice or Nutmeg Finch, page 240.
28. *Estrilda astrilda.* St. Helena Waxbill, page 241.

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Correspondence.

Sir,—In reply to Dr. Hopkinson's query in B.N. last month, I feel sure that my birds are *H. spinoides.* I think that I have had four hens altogether; the cocks are not so easy to get hold of, and all these birds were of the same type. Some young Siskins sent me by Mr. Teschemaker some years ago were smaller and of a lighter build, and must, I think, be attributed to the other species.

W. SHORE BAILY.

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Post Mortem Reports.

Vide rules on page ii. of cover.

Cuban Finch: Mrs. E. Sprawson.—This bird had a fatty liver and pneumonia. The other organs were healthy.

Bearded Tit: Capt. J. S. Reeve.—This bird was much too fat and died of commencing pneumonia supervening on congested lungs.

I find among birds that over fatness is very conducive to congestion of the lungs and pneumonia. It may be that the bird becomes slothful and gets chilled, or merely becomes prone to infection as is the case of a human being who "does himself too well."

NATHANIEL S. LUCAS, M.B., F.Z.S.

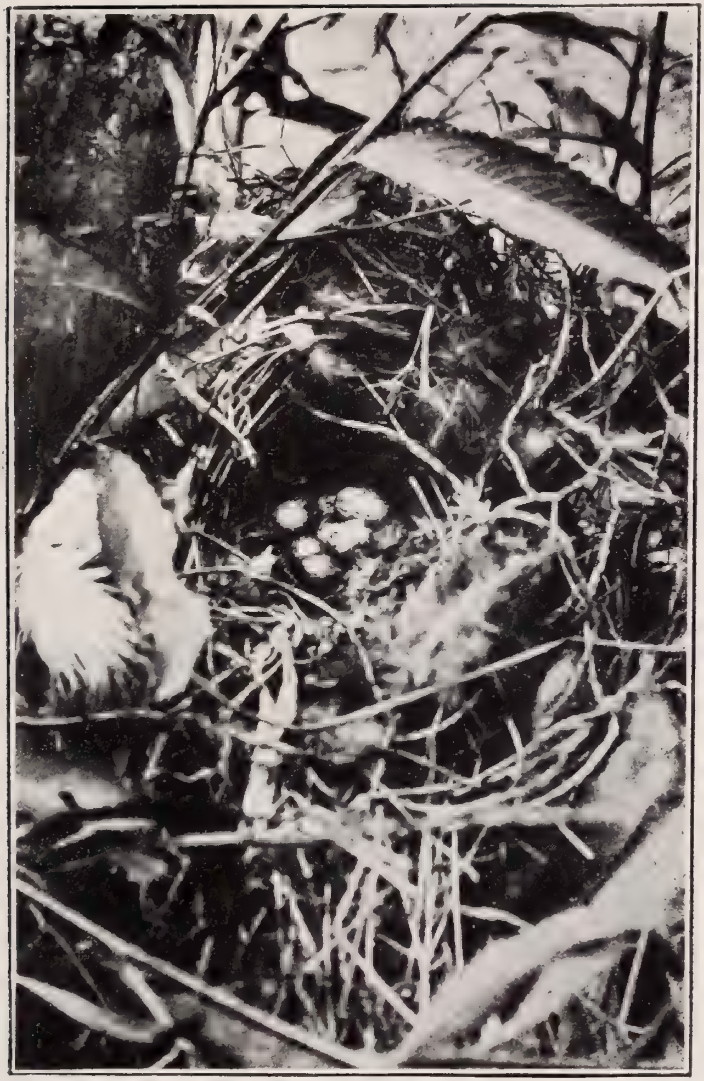

Photo W. Shore Baily.

Nest and Eggs of Cape Sparrow

(*Passer arcuatus*).

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BIRD NOTES:

— THE —

JOURNAL OF THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

Some Sparrows in My Aviaries.

BY W. SHORE BAILY.

" Them be Spaggers. What does he keep them for?"

Thus spoke one small boy to another, as they took a stolen view of one of my aviaries. Sparrows they were alright. Cinnamon Tree Sparrows (*Passer cinnamomeus*) from India, and, by the casual observer they might easily be mistaken for our *Passer domesticus.* It is some years now since I owned these birds, and, although I believe that they bred with their former owner they certainly did not do so with me. I do not think that any have been imported for a long time. They are not very interesting, neither are they handsome birds, and the dealers would probably find them difficult to sell. My cock bird proved delicate and did not live long. " As hardy as a Sparrow " does not apply to the foreign species, as I have, I think, had as many casualties amongst these birds as with the supposedly more delicate waxbills and finches. My Cinnamon hen, however, lived several years, and during that time had many nests, on one occasion rearing a hybrid when mated with a cock Cape Sparrow.

This year I purchased, along with a small flock of Cape Sparrows (*Passer arcuatus*) two cocks that very closely resembled *Passer cinnamomeus*, but were considerably larger. The following is a rough description: Head, back, and wings rich rufous; centre of throat black; sides of neck and underparts greyish-white; bill and feet black.

Another unknown Sparrow received from Natal last year was as follows: Head and back greyish-brown; rump rufous; eyebrow-streak buff; throat and underparts dirty white; bill black and very stout; feet flesh-coloured. No hens appear to have come over, and the question in my mind is, whether they were true species or hybrids; probably the latter, as none of my books have descriptions of any birds at all resembling them. Unfortunately they did not live long, and I failed to find their dead bodies, or I should have forwarded their skins to the British Museum, and asked the authorities there to report upon them.

Quite the most handsome of all the Sparrow-tribe is the Cape Sparrow (*Passer arcuatus*). For many years I had hens of this variety, but was unable to get cocks. This year quite a lot of males came over, so I put up three pairs in different aviaries. They all went to nest more than once, choosing boxes as a site for their nests, except in the case of one pair, where no boxes were available. Here the hen, which is the principal architect, had to build in the trees, so I was enabled to get a photo of a really natural nest, as I take it that at the Cape they, to a large extent, nest in trees. The nest was of the shape and size of a small football, with the entrance hole at the front. It was rather untidy as to its exterior, but was well woven, and the inside, which was lined with brilliant feathers from my Satyra Tragopans, was quite dry, even after heavy showers.

The eggs from all three hens were of the same type, and they do not appear to differ, as do the eggs of our domestic sparrow.

As far as I know the hen alone incubated, but both birds fed the young. In no case, however, were these fully reared, as they were usually thrown out of the nests when about ten days old. Probably the supply of live food was insufficient. It was rather a pity, as they are such handsome birds, and I should have liked to be able to follow the change of the young to adult plumage. A bird that I have found much easier to breed is the Yellow-Sparrow (*Passer luteus*). The cocks are extremely pretty birds, quite as attractive in colouring, as many of the so called " Ornamental Finches," and not at all quarrelsome with other birds. In 1913 I bred several young ones, and have done so once or twice since. Very few of these pretty birds appear to have been imported during the last few years, which I think is rather to be wondered at in view of their easiness to keep.

Three other varieties of Sparrow I have had this year—the Yellow-throated Sparrow (*Petrona petronella*), the Lesser Rock Sparrow (*P. dentata*), and the Grey-headed Sparrow (*Passer diffusus*). All these Sparrows are known occasionally by the dealers' names of Swainson's Sparrows.

P. petronella is a rather large but slenderly-built bird, having a wide buffish-white eyebrow-stripe and a small spot of yellow on the throat. Its habitat is, I believe, Natal and the East Coast.

Petrona dentata is a similarly coloured bird, but much smaller, and, in some specimens the yellow-spot on the throat is wanting. Habitat, Senegal and the West Coast. A much more freely imported bird than the last named.

Passer diffusus is probably the commonest of the three species, as there are nearly always a few with every shipment of Senegal birds. In this bird the head and underparts are grey; the back and upper part rufous-brown, two narrow bands of white crossing the wings. It is about the size of *Passer domesticus*, but more slenderly built, and has a more slender beak. I have no doubt that all these birds have bred at one time or other in our members' aviaries, but they have not done so with me. I hope next season to get better luck.

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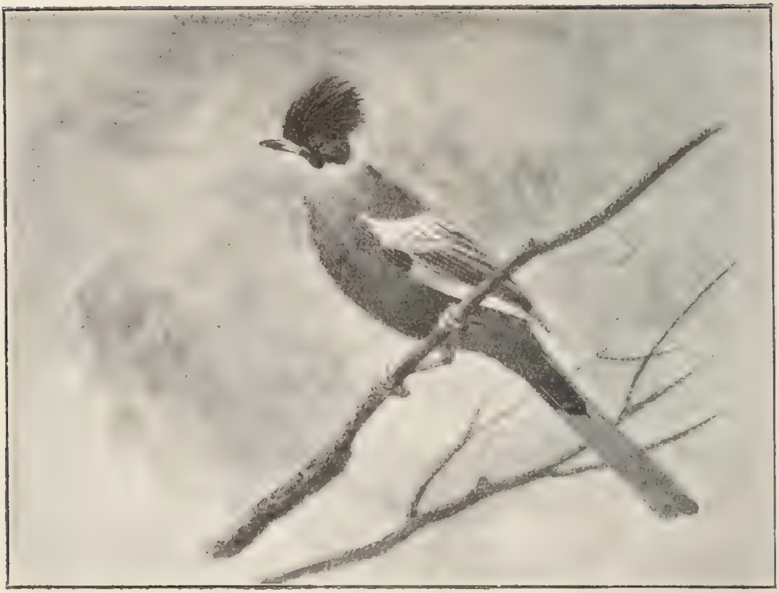
Some Birds I have kept.

By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

Black-headed Sibia (*Malacias capistrata*). My pair of this species was obtained from one of the consignments the late Col., then Capt., Perreau used to bring over when visiting the home-country on furlough. I remember the event as if it were yesterday—I was then living in London, and Perreau brought the birds (with others) himself, and from their travelling-cage we released them straight into the aviary, and my delight in them was such that it astonished even my worthy friend, who was a bit of an enthusiast himself, and my admiration for the species has not waned, though I have not possessed the species since I left London; but I intend to make an attempt to breed them as soon as the fates are kind enough to permit!



From life by H. Goodchild.

Black-headed Sibia.

Photo by *E. O. Page.*

I have said I have not kept the species since I left London, but at the present time I have a nice specimen making a temporary stay with me, belonging to one of our members. Possibly this is the prompter of these notes.

The late Mr. Goodchild made a drawing of the bird, which well depicts its fine contour, also the usual alert pose of the bird. The photo is a study of the same bird, taken by my brother, when the bird was in restful pose, during a bright period which succeeded a heavy thunderstorm the plumage of the bird not being properly dried off.

Description: Body colouring rich vinous; top of head glossy black; ear coverts, which project when the bird is excited, black; mantle and shoulders vinous-brown; flights blue-grey; wing-band white; beak blackish-grey; feet ruddy flesh-colour. The only difference I have noted in the sexes is: the male has a fuller crest, and his ear-coverts are more prominent during the spring and summer than those of the female; the latter is also a wee-bit smaller than her mate.

During the spring and summer they appear much wilder than they really are, owing to the wild, almost frantic, chasing of the female by her mate. At this period they are a fine sight in a roomy garden aviary.

A caged bird makes an interesting pet, soon becoming almost uncannily tame.

The song, or notes, is very varied, at times soft and ventriloquial, at others ringing sonorous and deep, but mostly varying between the two.

They are Tree-Babblers, and Mr. Frank Finn states that they are one of the commonest birds about Darjeeling.

They are wild after mealworms, mostly obtaining more than their share—a mealworm thrown in the air in their enclosure never reached the ground, being snapped up by the Sibias on the wing; the only birds I then possessed which could compete with them on even terms were my much larger Silvery-crowned Friar birds, which belong to the *Meliphagidae*. They also took insectile mixture, milk-sop, and were very greedy after any kind of soft ripe fruit—in a very short time one of them would suck out the interior of a large William pear, leaving nothing but the skin and bare core.

They had many flycatcher-like habits, and no fly or midge which entered their enclosure escaped their greed.

They are full of character, and are in every way handsome, interesting and engaging birds. They did not go to nest with me, but I should judge that, when they did so, they would be much more shy and retiring in their habits.

With all their wild rushing flights during the spring and summer, they remained sufficiently familiar to take mealworms from the hand, but infinitely preferred them to be thrown into the air for them to take on the wing; their dexterity at this game, together with their beautiful flight evolutions secured them a goodly quantity of the succulent mealworm so that I might have the pleasure of observing their dexterity and beauty.

They also have many of the characteristics of that even more beautiful bird, the Gold-fronted *Chloropsis*.

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Ornithological Chronicle.

[Reprinted from " L'OISEAU " as of general interest to our readers (translated by Maj. A. E. Snape)—we have done violence to the translation in the list of birds bred and have used the popular names in common use in this country opposite the respective species.—Ed. " B.N."]

The question often arises whether the climate of the Côte d'Azur is favourable to the acclimatisation and rearing of foreign birds of the tropical and sub-tropical regions. It would seem that the answer is in the affirmative as far as birds of small stature are concerned; M. N. Mayer, who has reared birds for a long time in his villa at Nice, forwards us the following list of species which have bred in his aviaries:

Blue Robin (*Sialia sialis*).
Cuba Finch (*Phonipara canora*).
Virginian Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*).
Grey Singingfinch (*Serinus leucopygius*).
Saffron Finch (*Sycalis flaveola*).
Rainbow Bunting (*Cyanospiza leclancheri*).
Red-crested Cardinal (*Paroaria cuculiata*).
Bar-breasted Firefinch (*Lagonosticta rufopicta*).
Vinaceous Firefinch (*L. vinacea*).
Flaming Firefinch (*L. polionota* ?).
Green Avadavat (*Stictospiza formosa*).

Cut-throat (*Amadina fasciata*).
Diamond Sparrow (*Steganopleura guttata*).
Aurora Finch (*Pytelia phoenicoptera*).
Bicheno's Finch (*Stictoptera bichenovi*).
Golden-breasted Waxbill (*Sporaeginthus subflavus*).
Java Sparrow (*Munia oryzivora*).
Rufous-tailed Grassfinch (*Bathilda ruficauda*).
Long-tailed Grassfinch (*Poephila acuticauda*).
Masked Grassfinch (*P. personata*).
Parson Finch (*P. cincta*)
Gouldian Finch (*P. gouldiae*).
Parrot Finch (*Erythrura psittacea*).
Cordon Bleu (*Estrilda phoenicotis*).
Masked or Cape Dove (*Oena capensis*).

All these birds were kept, winter and summer, in open air aviaries standing against a wall; the top was covered with glass near the wall and formed a shelter from the rain. M. Mayer adds that the Cut-throats and the Firefinches have only reared their young when he has been able to give them a liberal supply of fresh ant maggots.

As regards birds being slow at changing colour, an example of which M. Decoux quoted in one of our back numbers, M. Pierre Crepin informs us that, in a consignment of birds which he received last Spring from Senegal, quite a number of them, probably young males, have not changed their colour, so that out of six golden-ringed widow-birds three have changed colour, and amongst the Dominican widow-birds only one out of six has assumed his love garments. Out of eighteen *Ignicolores* a single one only has changed colour. It will be interesting to note whether all these young males assume their wedding plumes this summer, or whether some of them suffer an abnormal delay.

M. A. Decoux writes: "At the end of October I housed three golden-ringed widow-birds, one in the room of birds looking south and strongly-heated, the other two in the room looking north, into which I put those birds which do not like too high a temperature; it is equally heated, but the temperature is not as high (about 8 degrees C. instead of 23.25 degrees C.). It goes without saying that, on account of its position, it is not as light. The widow-birds in bridal plumage have moulted, but only in March was the one in the room looking south completely grey: the others had not finished changing their feathers, from which I conclude that the strong light and the heat have a beneficial influence in this transformation. My Jackson and Giant widow-birds have remained outside: the first has finished changing its feathers; the other is still changing colour.

Last Spring, during a shower of rain, I found some pheasants in my aviaries. All the birds were in the shelter. Suddenly, I noticed in the cage of the Temminck's Tragopans, a male Barraband parrot stretched on the grass, wings and tail stretched out; I thought it had been attacked, and hurried out despite the rain. The bird flew away; puzzled, I returned to my hiding place. A few seconds later, the parrot was again on the ground, stretching its wings and tail on the wet grass, rubbing its head on it, and ruffling its feathers to expose them to the rain. On its perch the bird was only able to enjoy imperfectly the pleasures of the downpour; how was it to receive the shower bath on the lower part of the body? You see how it solved the problem. Now-a-days, when I see it rolling in the grass, I call to mind my anxiety of last year.

One of our readers writes us that in twenty-four hours he lost fourteen birds, among which were nine Popes of Noumea and one Red-tailed Diamant. The evening before, he had had planted in his aviaries some Thuyas, whose berries had attracted the greed of the birds, and had been devoured in a few seconds. Were these berries the cause of the accident? Probably so. Yet we know of many aviaries planted with Thuyas, in which abnormal deaths have not occurred. Were not these shrubs more probably yews (Taxus), whose red berries, fatal to human beings, are also probably fatal to certain birds, and is it necessary to repeat to the amateur the advice of Virgil to the friend of the bees:

Neu propius tectis taxum sine? . . . .

Among the trees to be recommended for planting in an aviary we mention Cryptomeria elegans and japonica, Retinospora, Abies, Cupressus, Privets, Spindle-trees, Bamboos, Aucubas, Box-trees, various fruit trees, Elders, etc. . . . .

The *Guide to the bird amateur* (*Bibliothéque de Chasse et Pêche*, Brussels 1917) by the late lamented Alfred Sacre, who was the president founder of the Ornithological Society of East Belgium, is certainly the best work of its kind which has been written in the French language.

This book is the fruit of the long experience of the author, and all people who possess birds in cages or aviaries will consult it with profit; the low price of the book puts it within reach of everybody. The advice on "Hygiene and feeding of birds" is excellent; everything is put there in a clear and concise style; then follow descriptions of "indigenous birds," with interesting remarks on their habits and hints on how to feed and care for them; next, "birds of culture," canaries, crosses and hybrids; finally, the "foreign birds" which are usually kept in captivity are passed in revue. The interest of the book lies in the fact that it is the result of the personal observations of the author. You do not find in it, as is too often the case in such works, those "repetitions," often wrong, which are circulated for years. The naming of the species described must also be praised.

The Agricultural Ornithology by George Guenaux, published in the library of J. B. Baillière and Sons, is an excellent practical work, illustrated with numerous drawings, which will be of great use to all those interested in the birds of our fields. After zoological generalities on the bird, which everybody should know, all the indigenous birds are reviewed, their habits described, and their degree of utility or destructiveness made conspicuous. The book is concluded by a study of the protection of birds. The question is very well set forth, and the good cause impartially defended.

The Zoological Park of New York received in 1919, from its study station in British Guiana, a splendid * Coq-de-roche (*Rupicola rupicola*). Coqs-de-roche are certainly delicate in captivity. Dr. Chambers-Mitchell gives the average length of time that they live in captivity according to the eight specimens which lived in the Zoological Gardens, London; it is from eight and a half months, with a maximum of twenty months, the life in captivity of these splendid but rare birds considerably. Yet it seems certain that with plenty of fruit one could prolong M. R. Pauwels of Everberg once possessed a fine specimen, in excellent condition, which preserved intact its beautiful orange colour.

THE EDITOR, L. MARETHEUX.

* Cock of the Rock.—ED. B.N.

Editorial.

ERRATA:

Page 133, line 12, " *Agapornis madagascariensis* " should read *Agapornis cana.*

Page 210, line 33, " *Agapornis madagascariensis* " should read *Agapornis cana.*

Page 228, line 26, "It lies in all," should read *It should be in all.*

RETROSPECT: With this issue another Club year is completed; the past lies behind, but there are many lessons to be learned therefrom that, if noted and acted upon, will tend to the Club's welfare and mutual improvement in our study of the cult of aviculture.

The Secretary's Report, elsewhere in this issue, partially points out wherein we have failed, and also suggests the remedy, and, as Editor, I must also again press the need of more members contributing to the Club Journal. If only a few others would emulate the example of Mr. Shore Baily, what a Journal we should have! In the volume just completed there has been too much from the Editor's pen, which he deplores; true, some have written " the more the better "—this is very pleasant reading, provided the writers were not " pulling the Editor's leg "—anyway, seriously such is not for the permanent good of the Club Journal we want; the Club needs a more varied publication of *individual* avicultural experience; this we can only gain by more members coming out of their shell and contributing liberally to our Magazine, BIRD NOTES. While all the criticisms of the volume just completed that have reached us have been favourable, yet on the lines indicated above we are conscious of failure; this is one of the lessons the past year teaches us. Are we prepared to profit by it? Many of our most valued contributors made the *supreme* sacrifice for King and Country—.F.B.C. and its Journal suffered very heavily in this respect, and the aftermath of war has not spared us either—surely those who can will step into their places and make good the gap the " departed " so enthusiastically and ably filled—the need is real, and your Editor earnestly requests the co-operation of all.

While we have had no hint of this , it may be the Club

Journal does not fully meet the needs of all if this should be so, will such members kindly voice their need?

We would like to see the Correspondence section more freely used—it is open for the discussion of any topic of aviculture, and we trust in the coming year this section will be more extensively used.

The main points wherein we have failed apparently are:

(1) The small number of our members who contribute notes and articles, etc., to the Journal.

(2) The failure to make any material use of the Correspondence section.

(3) The comparatively small number who take the trouble to make the Club and its objects known to other aviculturists, and thus increase our membership.

(4) The slackness of a portion of our members in the payment of their annual subscriptions.

We will only further comment on points 3 and 4. As regards subscriptions, *it is highly important that these be paid promptly—any failure in this respect means a serious curtailment and hindrance to the Club's progress and utility.*

We would also press point (3) raised by the secretary in his report, of the need of a united effort to increase our membership, and as this and the following three months is the best period to put forth the effort, we specially urge every member to do their best to bring our membership to pre-war level at any rate. The gaps left by war and its aftermath are many, but these will be easily filled if all our members will make the Club and its objects known to other aviculturists, and induce them to join—the only question for each one is: Do I take sufficient interest in the F.B.C. to take the trouble?

We are grateful to all who have assisted by contributions, etc., to make the 1920 volume what it is, and especially so to the Magazine Committee, who have assisted the Editor in proof reading.

The Prospect will be referred to in our next issue.

It only remains for us to put all slackness aside, and for each to feel that they have a part in making 1921, the Coming of Age year of the Club, the most successful in its history, and we are confident that all will rise to the occasion.

Post Mortem Reports.

Vide rules on page ii. of cover.

Mrs. Cyril Dennis, Oxley Hall, Salop: Canary.—
Capt. J. S. Reeve, Leadenham House, Lincoln: Red-vented Bulbul ♂.—
Mrs. Calvocoressi, Holme Hey, Liverpool: Violet-eared Waxbill.—

All three cases were instances of death from enteritis or inflammation of the intestines. The cause is almost impossible to give. It does not seem likely that any of the deaths were due to improper feeding. The violet-eared waxbill was probably kept in rather too cold surroundings, and chilling made it more liable to infection by bacteria, which, had it been warmer, it might have resisted.

NATHANIEL S. LUCAS, M.B., F.Z.S.,
Hon. Pathologist.

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* Denotes Correspondence.

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VOL. IX WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17, 1919 No. 7

HOBNOBBING WITH KING ALBERT
AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS
BY THOMAS W. MORRIS
OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In Carnegie Lecture Hall, Thursday Evening, November 20, at 8:15.

The number of persons admitted on one ticket before 8 o'clock is limited to three.

It was necessary to obtain special permission from the Associated Press before we were able to announce this lecture.

Further information, including details of a proposed questionnaire, will be found on page 2.

DR. COBERN'S LECTURE POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER 21

Owing to the illness of the lecturer, Professor Camden M. Cobern's illustrated lecture on "Recent Discoveries in Egypt and Mt. Sinai," before the Archaeological Society, has been postponed to Friday evening, November 21, at 8:15.

The members of the Academy and their friends are cordially invited. No tickets are required.

An outline of the lecture was given in Bulletin No. 5.

Annual membership in the Academy costs $5.00. Each member receives a season ticket, which admits him and one or more friends to Academy lectures and Section meetings. These season tickets are issued by the Treasurer and they serve as receipts for dues. See page 4.

Present members are not required to apply for membership, as they continue until they resign and their resignations are accepted by the General Council.

Bulletin No. 1, the twenty page Year Book, containing the programs of the Academy in the East End and the North Side, information regarding the eleven Sections, and other interesting matter, is ready for distribution.

Bulletin No. 4 contains the program of lectures in the North Side.

Copies of these publications may be obtained from the Secretary of the Academy.

USE THE ENVELOPE

Bills for dues have been sent out. You are requested to remit as promptly as possible and to use the addressed envelope that accompanies your bill.

ASK FOR MR. J. H. LUCAS

Members who wish to pay their dues at the Bank of Pittsburgh, N. A., will please ask for Mr. Lucas, who is the assistant to the Treasurer, Mr. W. A. Shaw.

PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

Members of the Academy may become active members of any of the sections without additional charge.

They may, without extra charge, bring their families and friends to any lecture before the Academy and to any meetings of the sections, either in the East End or in the North Side, with the exception that the number to be admitted on one membership to certain lectures before the Academy in the East End is restricted to the member and one other.

All seats at lectures before the Academy are held for members and their friends until eight o'clock.

The weekly Bulletin is mailed regularly to members only.

DUES OF MEMBERS

There are three classes of members:

(1) ANNUAL, the dues of whom are five dollars. An annual member continues his membership until he resigns and his resignation is accepted by the General Council.

(2) LIFE MEMBERS pay one hundred dollars. These fees are added to the permanent fund, only the interest of which is used for the general expenses of the Academy. **Fees of life members received this year will be invested in Liberty Bonds.**

(3) FOUNDERS.

Application blanks, Year Books and further information will be promptly sent by the Secretary

J. B. HENCH,
5524 Kentucky Avenue, Pittsburgh
Bell Telephone 3188-J Highland

(Owing to his school duties, the Secretary requests that, so far as is possible, the following hours for telephoning be observed: before 9 a. m.; between 12 m. and 1 p. m.; after 3 p. m.)

The Bulletin is published weekly from September to May, inclusive, by the Academy of Science and Art of Pittsburgh, at 5524 Kentucky Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Editor: J. B. Hench, Secretary of the Academy.

Entered as second-class matter August 4, 1913, at the Post Office at Pittsburgh, Pa., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB.

Notices to Members.

SUBSCRIPTIONS CURRENT AND IN ARREARS: Some few members are still in arrears with their subscriptions for 1919; they are requested to forward same to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Williams, without delay. Members are reminded that *prompt payment* of subscriptions is a *sine qua non* in a society like F.B.C., as all our income is expended each year on the Journal BIRD NOTES, and MEDALS, only a small portion going to working expenses, thus subscriptions, being our sole source of income, are needed to meet constantly recurring liabilities. *All subscriptions should be paid during January in each year.* Members are requested to note this.

THE CLUB JOURNAL: The Editor needs copy and requests articles to be sent him somewhat as his suggested titles as under:

My Foreign Finches and their Doings.
Doves and Pigeons I have kept.
Lories and Lorikeets I have kept.
My Aviaries and Birds.
Some Parrots and Parrakeets I have kept.
How I feed and treat my birds.
My Pheasants—Past and Present.
Some Owls I have kept.
My Ducks and Waterfowl— Past and Present.
Some Softbills I have kept and Bred.
Reminiscences.
My Aviary Accommodation—Good and Bad Features.
Field Notes from Members residing Abroad.

Your Editor desires that the needs of every section of our membership should be met, whether breeders or exhibitors; and that the present volume should be comprehensive of all species of birds, both British and Foreign. Articles to be of general practical use should cover such features as: Description of Aviary; list of species kept in each enclosure, food and treatment, demeanour of birds, song, nesting (attempts and successes). The co-operation of members is earnestly solicited, that this easily attainable desire may be realised.

SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

Both these funds need all the help that members can give them. The Committee acknowledge with best thanks the following donations:

Arnott, P	0	10	0
Harbord, Miss M. L. (Postage and Deficit F.)	0	12	6
Mundy, Miss S.	2	0	0
Cook, Mrs. A. M., ... 2 Drawings.			

New Members Elected.

Mons. Jean Delacour, 28 Rue de Madrid VIIIe, Paris, France.
T. H. Few, Hyde House, Hart Hill, Luton, Beds.

Proposed for Election as Members.

Dr. S. Nairne, (*Dreadnought*), Greenwich, S.E., 10.
M. Thomson, 25, Rothsay Road, Bedford.
T. Goodwin, 185, Old Kent Road, London, S.E.
By the Hon. Sec.
Zoological Society of Philadelphia, The, Philadelphia, Penna, U.S.A.
By the Hon. Editor.
H. Wormald, Heathfield, Dereham, Norfolk.

Register of Club Breeders.

(For regulations *vide* B.N., page 98).

* Indicates ability to supply as soon as young are old enough to be moved

* THE MARQUIS OF TAVISTOCK, Warblington House, Havant, Hants.,
Stanley Parrakeets.

* BAILY, W., SHORE, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.

Rosella Parrakeets
Stanley Parrakeets
Conures

Bronze-wing Doves
Brush Bronze-wing Doves
Necklace Doves
Diamond Doves

* BURGESS, MRS. M., Kingsweir, 52, Clarendon Road, Redland Bristol
Blue Budgerigars

Olive Budgerigars

Blue-bred Budgerigars (from France)

Green (Blue-bred) Budgerigars

Green Budgerigars

Yellow Budgerigars

Finest Singing strain Roller, Lizard, and all good varieties of Canaries.

CLARE, MISS L., The Hollies, Coombe Lane, Wimbledon, London.
Budgerigars, Blue × Green.

* CHATTERTON, MRS. A., 11, Fairfield Road, Crouch End London, N., 8
Cockateels
Budgerigars

* CALVOCORESSI, P. J., Holme Hey, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool.
Zebra Finches.

* MARSDEN, J, F.Z.S., The Bungalow, Banks Lane, Heysham Harbour, Lancs
Blue-bred Green Budgerigars.

* MONEY, SIR L., The Grey House, Hampstead Lane, Highgate, London, N.6
Swainson's Lorikeets (Prefers to exchange with members, but willing to sell).

* MONTEFIORE, MRS. H. SEBAG, East Cliff Lodge, Ramsgate.
Green Budgerigars.
Cockateels.

* PITHIE, MISS D., 68, Clarendon Road, Southsea, Portsmouth
Zebra Finches.

* SMITH, J., Woodlands, Kendal.
Stanley Parrakeets.
Many-colour Parrakeets.

* TRACEY, MRS. A. L., Halsham, Teignmouth, Devon.
Zebra Finches.

It must be noticed, this is the commencement of the above register, and that with the exception of the first named, these Club Breeders may not have adult stock to dispose of, and that their supplies will mainly depend upon the season's successes; but members may make prospective bookings with them. All have pairs which have bred during last and other seasons, and thus may reasonably be expected to do so again. It is hoped many other members will register as Club Breeders. A descriptive catalogue will be issued as early as possible.

The Bird Market.

MEMBERS' RATES: **Four words a penny; minimum fourpence.** **Non-**members and displayed rates on application. **Advertisements should be sent** to the Hon. Editor **by the 8th of each month.**

MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

FOR SALE: Red Rosella (young), 4 aviary-bred Cockateels, also Green Budgerigars. WANTED: cock Zebra Finch and hen Yellow Budgerigar.—Col. L. de Legh, Shincliffe, near Durham.

WANTED: Hen Red-rump Parrakeet, in good conditiin.—Sir Leo Chiozza Money, The Grey House, Hampstead Lane, Highgate, London, N., 6.

FOR SALE: Aviary-bred Cockateels (hens).—Capt. J. S. Reeve, Leadenham House, Lincoln.

FOR SALE: Fine aviary-bred Cockateels from renowned breeders. WANTED: Cock Zebra Dove, also cock Senegal Turtle-Dove in exchange for hen.—Capt. Hamilton Scott, Hamildean, Ipswich.

FOR SALE: Cock Californian Quail, 15s. 6d.—R. Baines, 6 Toronto Street, Lincoln.

FOR SALE: 25 New Copies of *Butler's Foreign Finches for Aviaries*, containing 60 life-size fine coloured plates, and full instructions on rearing, etc., in captivity. These are the last copies of this important work which is invaluable to everyone interested in "Foreign Finches." Published at £1 15s. Price 25s.—A. Ford, Naturalist, Irving Road, Bournemouth, Hants., or the Hon. Secretary, S. Williams, 110, Riverway, Palmers Green, N. 13.

FOR SALE: Sittings of Eggs from pedigree laying hens, from 10s. 6d. to 21s. a sitting; day old chicks double. Breeds: White Wyandotte, White Leghorn, and Rhode Island Reds (S.C.), full pedigree sent—no exhibition birds kept.—W. A. Bainbridge, Tarrant Keyneston Manor, Blandford, Dorset,

PRIVATELY IMPORTED:

King Vulture *(Otygyps calvus)*.
Pair Bengal Eagle-Owls *(Bubo bengalensis)*.
Wandering Tree-Pie *(Dendrocitta rufa)*.
* Cattle Egrets *(Bubuleus coromandus)*.
* Jungle Mynahs *(Æthiospar fuscus)*.
* Grey-headed Mynahs *(Poliopsar malabarica)*.
Pair Adjutant Storks *(Liptoptilus javanicus)*.
* Ruddy Shelducks *(Casarca rutila)*.
Blue-cheeked Barbets *(Cyanops asiatica)*.
* Red-whiskered Bulbuls *(Otocompsa emeria)*.
* Red-vented Bulbuls *(Molpastes bengalensis)*.
White-backed Vulture *(Pseudogyps bengalensis)*.
* Bengal Black Bulbul *(Pycnonotus pygaeus)*.

* Can be supplied in true pairs; others cannot be guaranteed male and female, but every precaution will be taken to prevent error. All in good health and mostly in good plumage.—W. T. Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

De VON & Co.,

127, KING'S CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.,
can offer the following:

Adult breeding Budgerigars, 18s. pair; Yellow, 20s. pair; Roller Canaries with beautiful trills, no chopping, 35s. and 40s. each; Piping Bullfinches £4; Goldfish, Squirrels, etc., etc.; Foods of all sorts. See price list.

◆

RULES.

1. The objects of "THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB" shall be the mutual encouragement and assistance of the members in keeping and breeding all species of Birds, and the exhibiting of Foreign Birds and the improvement of Shows in regard to them.

2. The Club shall be composed of members. Every member shall pay an entrance fee of 5s., and an annual subscription of 20s. Subscriptions shall be due and payable in advance on the 1st of January in each year. If any member's subscription shall be more than three months overdue, he shall be suspended from all benefits of the Club, and if more than nine months overdue, notice of his having ceased to be a Member of the Club, and of the cause, may be published in Notices to Members; and on such notice being published he shall cease to be a member accordingly, *but his liability for overdue subscriptions shall continue.*

3. New Members shall be proposed in writing by a Member of the Club; and the name and address of every person thus proposed, with the name of the person proposing him, shall be published in the Notices to Members. Unless the Candidate shall, within fourteen days after the publication of his name, be objected to by at least two Members, he shall be duly elected. If two or more Members shall lodge with either of the Secretaries objections to any Candidate he shall not be elected, but the signature to the signed objections must be verified by the Scrutineer. The Secretaries and the Scrutineer shall not disclose the names of the objectors.

4. Any member wishing to resign at the end of the current year of the Club shall give notice of intention to one of the Secretaries before the 31st of December, and in default of such notice *he shall be liable to the following year's subscription.*

5. The Officers of the Club shall be elected from the Members, and shall consist of a President, one or more Vice-presidents, an Auditor, a Scrutineer, one or more Secretaries, a Treasurer, a Veterinary Surgeon, a Council of Twenty-four Members, and such number of Judges as shall from time to time be determined by the Council. The Editor, Secretaries, Treasurer, and Veterinary Surgeon shall be *ex-officio* members of the Council.

Three Members of the Council shall retire annually by seniority, but are eligible for re-election. The Editor, Secretaries, and Treasurer shall be elected trienially. The Council and Judges shall be elected in a manner hereinafter provided. The other officers shall be elected annually at a meeting of the Council, immediately after their own election.

6. The election for the three annual vacancies on the Council, and the Judges, shall take place every year between the 15th November and the 5th December. The Secretaries shall ascertain which of the Members are willing to stand for election to office, and shall send to each Member of the Club, on

or about the 15th of November, a voting paper containing a list of all such members, showing the offices for which they are respectively seeking election. Each Member shall make a (×) opposite the names of those for whom he desires to vote, and shall sign the paper at the foot, and send it in a sealed envelope to the Scrutineer, so that he may receive it before 5th December. The Scrutineer shall prepare a return of the officers elected, showing the number of votes recorded for each Candidate, and send it one of the Secretaries for publication in the Notices to Members for December. The Scrutineer shall not reveal to any person how any Member shall have voted. In the event of an equality of votes the president shall have a casting vote.

7. Dealers in birds shall not be eligible for election to any office in the Club, except that of Judge. For the purpose of this rule, any Member who habitually buys birds with the intention of selling them again, shall be deemed a bird dealer. Before the annual election of officers, the Secretaries shall submit to the Council the list of Members willing to stand for election to the Secretaryship, the Treasurership, and the Council; and the Council shall remove from the list the name of any Candidate who shall be, in the opinion of the Council, a dealer in birds, within the meaning of this rule. The decision of the Council or of any Committee to whom the Council shall delegate its power under this rule, shall be final. When a dealer is proposed as a Member of this Club, the fact of his being a dealer shall be stated in the Notices to Members.

8. It shall be lawful for the Council to delegate any of its powers to a committee.

9. The Council may appoint an Arbitration Committee, which may decide questions at issue between Members, when requested to do so by both parties. Any decision of such Committee shall be final. Except to the extent permitted by this rule, the Club and its officers shall decline to concern themselves with disputes between Members.

10. The Council shall have power to alter and add to these Rules, but shall give the members notice of any proposed alteration or addition, and in the event of six members objecting thereto within fourteen days, the proposed alterations or additions shall be submitted to the votes of the Members. Failing such objection the alteration shall date from its adoption by the Council.

12. Neither the office of Scrutineer nor that of Auditor shall be held for two consecutive years by the same person. The Scrutineer shall not be a Candidate at any Election at which he acts as Scrutineer.

13. If any office becomes vacant at any time than at the end of the current year of the Club, the Council shall have power to appoint any Member to fill the vacancy.

14. The decision of a majority of the Council shall be final and binding on the Club, but a resolution passed by the Council shall be acted upon unless there be an absolute majority of the Council (and not merely of those voting) in its favour.

Rules Governing Club's Patronage at Shows

1. The patronage of the F.B.C. is given at all OPEN SHOWS, provided the following conditions are observed.

   (a) At least three classes must be provided for *FOREIGN BIRDS* (excluding local and members' classes, in which no bird competing for F.B.C. patronave may be shown).

   (b) The classification and name of the judge must be submitted by Show Secretaries, when applying for patronage.

   (c) Those societies obtaining patronage must print in the schedule that the section is under the patronage of the F.B.C.

   (d) That no alteration (amalgamation or cancellation) of classes must be made, or the judges changed without giving notice to the Hon. Show Secretary of the F.B.C., in which case the original patronage does not hold good.

2. All MEDALS are awarded to BEST BIRDS (but the Committee have the right to award extra medals for special purposes) and no silver medal is granted where less than six classes are provided.

3. Members of the F.B.C. *must* place F.B.C. after each entry on entry forms, and should request show secretaries to print these initials in their catalogues.

4. No Member can win more than two medals in a season, *i.e.;* one silver and one bronze, or more than one medal at the same show.

5. The London Silver Cup is offered for competition at all Shows under patronage in the London Postal District, where ten or more classes are given, and the Provincial Silver Cup at shows outside this area, for points gained throughout the season by nominated birds.

6. These Cups become the property of those who have won them three times (not necessarily in succession), and only three birds at each Show can be nominated, which is done by writing the word "CUP" after the entries on entry form. If members nominate more than three birds they will be disqualified for that show.

7. These conditions only hold good where Show Societies and Members observe the rules. Failure to conform annuls all offers, and the birds of a member whose subscription is unpaid at the time of making an entry are ineligible to compete.

8. Points for the Cup to count as follows: 1st, 7 points; 2nd, 6 points; and one point off for each lower award. Should a tie take place, the member taking the most prize money to win.

9. Any item not herein provided for, may be dealt with at the discretion of **The Show Committee.**

Rules re Breeding Medals.

1. The F.B.C. Medal for Breeding a Species or Hybrid for the first time in captivity in Great Britain, will be awarded on the following conditions only:

(a) As detailed an account of the success as possible must be sent for publication in Bird Notes as soon as the young can fend for themselves.

(b) The Awards Committee, whose decision shall be final, to make the awards from the Secretary's data, and the published articles recording successes.

(c) The awards will be made, and the medals distributed at the close of each successive season, or as soon afterwards as the publication of said articles permit.

2. SPECIES: The young must be reared to be independent of their parents. The eggs must be incubated and the young reared by the pair of birds producing the eggs, or the record is not eligible for the medal; except in the case of parasitic species.

3. HYBRIDS: For any cross not previously reared in captivity, between any two species—the domestic Canary as one of the parents alone being excepted. A cross between any two species is only once recognised, e.g., Parson Finch × Long-tailed Grassfinch, and Long-tailed Grassfinch × Parson Finch are reckoned as the same Hybrid for the purposes of this award, and whichever was secured first would hold the record. The eggs must be incubated and the young reared by the pair of birds producing the eggs, or the record will not be eligible for a medal.

ROLL OF MEMBERS.

Honorary Member.

Filmer, H. R., (*Founder*), Brendon, 22, Carrington Road, Brighton.

Allan, J. W., Bondgate, Alnwick. (April, 1911).

Ames, Mrs. Hobart, North Easton, Massachussetts, U.S.A. (March, 1913)

Amsler, Dr. Maurice, Eton Court House, High Street, Eton, Windsor. (March, 1909).

Anson, E. R., The Manor House, Aldingbourne, Chichester. (April, 1918).

Armstrong, Mrs. A. M., Newton Purcell Rectory, Buckingham. (November, 1915).

Arnold, R., Tower House, Leigham Court Road, Streatham, London, S.W., 16. (March, 1912).

Arnott, Peter, Grant Street, Alloa. (December, 1913).

Arrighi, L. J., Harrison View, Watson Crescent, Edinburgh. (March, 1908)

Avery, Mrs. A., 63, Windsor Road, Forest Gate, E. 7. (March, 1918).

Ayton, Ed., 71, Grosvenor Street, London, W., 1. (March, 1918.)

Baily, W. Shore, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts. (June, 1909).

Bainbridge, Capt. W. A., Keynston Manor, Tarrant Keynston, Blandford (September, 1912).

Baines, R., 6, Toronto Street, Monk's Road, Lincoln. (February, 1916).

Bamford, Wm., The Coppice, Werneth, Oldham. (June, 1904).

Bartels, O., "Orchida," Mayne, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. (Jan. 1917)

Batty, Capt. W. R., 11, Park Road, Southport. (October, 1915).

Beaty, S., Strathnarn, Elm Grove, Alderley Edge, Manchester. (March, 1908).

Beazor, Rev. J. T. A. Lovell, The Nest, Bicclescombe Park, Ilfracombe. (April, 1911).

Beebe, C. W., Curator of Ornithology, New York Zoological Park, New York City, U.S.A. (July, 1911).

Bentley, Ernest E., St. Mary's Lodge, Louth. (March, 1914).

Bourke, Hon. Mrs. Gwendolin, Hitcham Vale, Taplow, Maidenhead, and 75 Gloucester Place, Portman Square, London, W. 1. (December, 1909).

Bousfield, Miss M., Avon Court, Southbourne Road, Bournemouth. (January, 1908).

Bowring, Miss Clara, Ascot Heath Lodge, Ascot, Berks. (July, 1914).

Brackenridge, W. A., 525 Orange Grove Ave., South Pasadena, California, U.S.A. (June, 1918).

Bright, Herbert, Woolton Tower, Woolton, Liverpool. (October, 1911).

Brodie, Miss C., Stoke Lodge, London Road, Guildford, Surrey. (July, 1919)

Brook, E. J., F.Z.S., Hoddam Castle, Ecclefechan, Dumfrieshire. (Mar. 1908)

Browning, W. H., 16, Cooper Square, New York, U.S.A. (February, 1910).

Bruce, Miss A., Chevet Park, Wakefield. (March, 1909).
Bufton, Reginald P., Caerhyn, Llandrindod Wells, Radnorshire. (Jan. 1913).
Burgess, Mrs., Kingsweir, 52 Clarendon Road, Redlands, Bristol. (Sept. 1915)

Cade, R., Baytree Cottage, Southgate, London, N. (November, 1919).
Calvocoresi, P. J., Holme Hay, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool. (October, 1916)
Camps, H. T., F.Z.S., Linden House, Haddenham, Ely. (Orig. Mem.).
Capern, F., Lewin's Mead, Bristol. (October, 1907).
Carr, Percy, Ormond Lodge, Newbold-on-Stour, Stratford-on-Avon (November, 1918).
Carr, R. H., Nant-y-Glyn, Windsor Avenue, Leicester. (November, 1919).
Case, Mrs. A. M., Holmbury, Silverdale Road, Eastbourne. (February, 1918).
Chaplin, Mrs. Drummond, Government House, Salisbury, Rhodesia. (July, 1914).
Chaplin, E. W., The Firs, Great Amwell, Ware. (September, 1903).
Chatterton, Mrs., 11, Fairfield Road, Crouch End, London, N. (January, 1915).
Chawner, Miss E. F., Forest Bank, Lyndhurst, Hants. (July, 1910).
Christie, Mrs. G., Kellas, By Elgin. (January, 1913).
Clare, Miss Lydia, The Hollies, 194, Coombe Lane, Wimbledon, London. S.W. 19. (March, 1910).
Clark, W. G., Hummers Knott, Windsor Road, Slough. (January, 1915)
Clarke, L. Hyde, Woodlands, St. Olave's, Gt. Yarmouth. (October, 1918).
Clarke, S., "Vue du Lac," Fermain, Guernsey. (August, 1911).
Cleeburg, Chas., junr., Bellevue House, Dumfries, N.B. (December, 1916).
Colton, R., 9, Birkendale Road, Sheffield. (February, 1913).
Connell, Mrs. Knatchbull, The Orchard, Brockenhurst, Hants. (July, 1912)
Cook, Mrs. A. M., F.Z.S., 5, Lancaster Road, Hampstead, London, N.W., 3. (February, 1916).
Croker, Chas. E., Burrow Inch, Lower Bourne, Farnham. (October, 1911).
Cronkshaw, J., 7, Harcourt Road, Accrington. (November, 1901).
Crow, C. F., Lindsey Bank House, Grimsby. (October, 1915).
Currie, J., 128, Willowbrae Road, Edinburgh. (August, 1913).
Cushny, Charles, c/o Messrs. Neish, Howell, and Haldane, 47, Watling St., St. Paul's, E.C. (Orig. Mem.).

Davies, Mrs. M. H., St. Ann's, Tintern, Chepstow. (January, 1914).
Davey, R. W., 33, St. Luke's Road, Totterdown, Bristol. (November, 1919)
Dawson-Smith, Lt. F., Nash Rectory, Stony Stratford, Bucks. (March, 1912).
Decoux, A., Géry, Par Aixe-sur-Vienne, France. (May, 1919).
Delacour, Jean, 28, Rue de Madrid VIIIe, Paris, France. (January, 19).
Dell, C. E., 12, High Street, Harlesden, London, N.W., 10. (January, 1914)
Dennis, Mrs. Harold, Wigmore, Beare Green, Dorking Surrey. (Jan., 1904)
Dewar, D., I.C.S., F.Z.S., c/o Bombay Nat. History Society, 6, Apollo Street, Bombay, India. (June, 1907).
Dewar, J. F., 2, St. Patrick's Square, Edinburgh. (Orig. Mem.).

Dewar-Murray, Mrs. E. G., Inchyre House, Lindores, Fifeshire. (rej. July, 1919).
De Yarburg-Bateson, The Hon. Lilla, Heslington, York. (June, 1903).
Dickinson, Mrs. E., Welbeck Estate, Lovedale, Nilgiris, S. India. (Jan. 1918).
Ditchfield, F., 37, Nugget Street, Oldham. (April, 1914).
Dobbie, J., Waverley Works, Leith, Edinburgh. (April, 1906).
Dobson, W. B. C., Bindown, Hampton Wick, Kingston-on-Thames. (April, 1914).
Drummond, Miss, Mains of Megginch, Errol, Perthshire. (November, 1907)
Dunleath, The Lady, Ballywater Park, Ballywater, co. Down. (Nov., 1901).
Dutton, The Hon. and Rev. Canon. "Mosborough," Grafton Road, Cheltenham. (May, 1906).
Dyott, Capt., R. A., Freeford, Lichfield. (November, 1912).

Earle, J. Hudson, Newgate House, Cottingham, Hull. (March, 1914).
Ebrill, Wm., "Greenville," South Circular Road, Limerick. (April, 1906)
Edmunds, W., Coombe Farm, Langton Matravers, Dorset. (Nov., 1909).
Edwards, J., 1224 East Forty-third Street, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A. (January, 1920).
Elms, E. F. M., Rosebank Cottage, Carshalton Road, Sutton, Surrey. (June 1910).
Ezra, A., F.Z.S., Foxwarden Park, Cobham, Surrey. (January, 1911). (January, 1911).
Ezra, D., 3, Kyd Street, Calcutta, India. (August, 1912).

Falkner, Guy, The Cottage, Belton, Uppingham. (November, 1916).
Fasey, William R., The Oaks, Holly Bush Hill, Snaresbrook, N.E. (January, 1903).
Few, T. H., Hyde House, Hart Hill, Luton, Beds. (January, 1920).
Fisher, W. H., The Bush Hotel, Farnham. (May, 1908).
Fitch-Daglish, Dr. E., F.Z.S., 8, Beauleiu Villas, Finsbury Pk., London, N. 4 (April, 1919).
Flower, Capt. S. S., F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., Keedah House, Zoological Gardens, Gizeh, Egypt. (March, 1909).
Ford, A. Freeman, 215 South Grand Avenue, Pasadena, California, U.S.A. (October, 1918).
Foster, T., Fairlight, Babbacombe, Torquay. (March, 1914).
Fowler-Ward, Dr. F., 40, Berners Street, Ipswich. (October, 1913).
Freville, Miss M. N. de, Welbeck Estate, Lovedale, Nilgiris, S. India. (January, 1916).
Frost, W. J. C., 6 Wards Ave., Fulham, S.W. 6. (August, 1913).

Garcke, Mrs. C., Wye Lodge, Maidenhead. (June, 1916).
Gerrard, Miss M., 14 Via Perasto, Lido, Venice, Italy. (June, 1914).
Gills, R. H., 4, Gueens Grove, Longsight, Manchester. (February, 1919).
Goodwin, T. J., 185, Old Kent Road, London, S.E. (January, 1920).

Gorringe, The Rev. Reginald, Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton, Dorset. (December, 1902).
Gosse, Capt. Philip, M.D., M.B.O.U., 18 Chenniston Gardens, Kensington, W. 5. (April, 1910.
Goytino, J. P., 820 Summit Ave., Los. Angeles, California, U.S.A. (March 1918).
Gray, H., M.R.C.V.S., 23, Upper Phillimore Place, Kensington, London, W. 8. (May, 1906).
Green, Neal, F.Z.S., Holbeck Manor, Horncastle, Lincs. (February, 1919).
Grossmith, J. L., The Grange, Bickley, Kent. (January, 1913).
Grove, Mrs. Julian, Brattemsley House, Lymington, Hants. (March, 1917).
Gurney, G. H., Keswick Hall, Norwich. (June, 1913).

Haggie, Miss E., Brumcombe, Foxcombe Hill, Oxford. (February, 1910).
Halkes, T. C., The Limes, 141, Monks Road, Lincoln. (July, 1916).
Hand, Miss R., Brumcombe, Foxcombe Hill, Oxford. (January, 1919).
Hansson, Mrs. Vera Hirst, The Low Hall, Killinghall, Harrogate. (January, 1918).
Harbord, Miss M. L., Lorton Park House, Lorton, Cockermouth. (April, 1916).
Harcourt, The Rt. Hon. Lewis, P.C., 14, Berkeley Square, London, W. 1. (April, 1914).
Harper, E. W., F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., 17-19, Old Court House Street, Calcutta, India. (October, 1907).
Harris, Chas., 127, King's Cross Road, London, W.C. (April, 1910).
Harrison, T. O., 127, Hasting's Road, Sunderland. (March, 1918).
Hartley, Mrs. E. A., Lynchfield, Bishop's Lydeard, Taunton. (Sept., 1907).
Hawkins, J. E., Belvedere, Streetley Lane, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield Birmingham. (April, 1915).
Hawkins, L. W., Estrilda, New Clive Road, West Dulwich. (Orig. Mem.)
Hebb, T., Brooklea, The Downs, Luton. (August, 1912).
Henderson, Mrs. W. F., Moorfield, Upper Claremont, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (November, 1908).
Henstock, J. H., Market Place, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. (March, 1907).
Herbert, Lieut. Edward Greville, c/o Messrs. Cox and Co., R.A.F. Branch, 111, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C., 2. (January, 1915).
Hewitt, F. W. G., The Old Hall, Weelsby, Grimsby. (April, 1909).
Hincks, Miss E. M., Easterlands, Wellington, Somerset. (December, 1904).
Holden, Ralph A., F.Z.S., 5, St. John Street, Bedford Row, London, W.C. 1, and Harpenden, Herts. (July, 1911).
Hopkinson, Emilus, D.S.O., M.A., M.B., Oxon, Bathurst, Gambia, West Africa. (October, 1901).
Horne, A., Bon-Na-Coille, Murtle, Aberdeen. (August, 1917).

Howe, Frank, 54, Thomas Street, Wellingborough. (February, 1902).
Hume, James, Hepscott, Morpeth. (June, 1903).
Hunnings, Lieut. A., F.S.I., 31, Broadwater Road, Tottenham, London, N. (March, 1918).
Hyde, Walter, Kempton Park, Sunbury-on-Thames. (June, 1915).

Jardine, J., Castle Inilk, Lockerbie, N.B. (August, 1913).
Jeakins, A. E., Winscottie, Simla, India. (April, 1916).
Jersey, The Countess of, Middleton Park, Bicester. (November, 1912).
Johnson, Miss L. Sturton, Orotava House, Ore, Hastings. (Sept., 1910)
Johnson, Major F., Melrose, Wilbury Road, Hove, Brighton. (Aug. 1911).
Jordan, W., Hill House, Palmer's Green, London, N. (April, 1916).

Kennedy, Mrs., 7, Albion Road, Sutton, Surrey. (May, 1908).
Kewley, Mrs. M. A., Barwich House ,Yeovil, Somerset. (September, 1910)
Knobel, Miss E. Maud. 32, Tavistock Sjuare, London, W.C. (Dec., 1911).

Lamb, E. J., Alverstone, Thetford Road, New Malden, Surrey. (May, 1906).
Leach, C. F., Vale Lodge, Leatherhead. (July, 1914).
Le'callier, Mme. G., Le Pavillion, St. Pierre-les-Elbeug, France. (Aug., 1919)
Legh de Legh, Col. H., Shincliffe, near Durham. (April, 1911).
Lilford, The Lord, Lilford Hall, Oundle, Northants. (January, 1914).
Lindsey-Renton, G. H., Dovers, Reigate, Surrey. (February, 1919).
Longdon, Mrs. C. A., Arreton, Epsom Road, Guildford. (February, 1909).
Lovell-Keays, Capt. L. F., R.A.M.C., Stoke Lodge, London Road, Guildford, Surrey. (March, 1913).
Low, G. E., 14, Royal Terrace East, Kingstown. (May, 1914).
Lucas, Miss Emma, Bramblehurst, East Grinstead, Sussex. (Sept., 1913).
Lucas, Capt., N. S., M.B., F.Z.S., 19, Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park, London, W. 2. (January, 1914).

McDonagh, J. E. R., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.Z.S., L.L.S, 4, Wimpole Street, London, W. (January, 1903).
McDonald, D. D., Atholl Arms Hotel, Blair Atholl, N.B. (October, 1915).
Mackness, Mrs. N., Cypress Road, Church End, Finchley, N. (June, 1916).
Macready, F. W., 39, George Street, Stranraer. (July, 1916).
Mannering, R., Knoll Cottage, Noak Hill, Romford. (February, 1912).
Marsden, J., F.Z.S., The Bungalow, Banks Lane, Heysham Harbour, Morecambe, Lancs. (March, 1914).
Marshall, M. M., South Grand Ave., Pasadena, California, U.S.A. (March, 1919).
Mason, D., The Maisonnette, Broadstairs. (April, 1914).
Master, G., M.B., B.C., 86, Guildhall Street, Bury St. Edmunds, (Nov., 1903)
Maxwell-Jackson, Miss M., Cowhill, Rutland Road, Harrogate. (Jan., 1913).
Maxwell, C. T., 1, Shardcroft Aven., Herne Hill, S.E. (December, 1908).

Meadows, J. C. W., 19, Cardiff Road, Luton. (February, 1908).
Millsum, O., The Firs, Westwood, Margate. (July, 1907).
Mitchell, H., 42, Brunswick Square, Hove, Brighton. (September, 1903).
Money, Sir L. G. Chiozza, The Grey House, Hampstead Lane, London, N (October, 1910).
Montague, G. R., 63, Croxted Road, Dulwich, S.E., 21. (February, 1909).
Montgomery, W. O., c/o Mrs. Hulse, Alexandra Road, Hornsea, Hull. (January, 1913).
Morrison, The Hon. Mrs. McLaren, Queen Anne's Mansions, St. James' Park, London, S.W. (November, 1906).
Mortimer, Mrs., Wigmore, Beare Green, Dorking, Surrey. (Orig. Mem.).
Mundy, Miss Sybil, Shipley Hall, Derby. (August, 1911).
Murton Marshall, Osborne, Villas, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. (August, 1913).

Nairne, Dr. S., Seamen's Hospital Soc., (*Dreadnought*), Greenwich, S.E. 10. (January, 1920).
Naylor, Mrs. F. M., Alton House, Mersey Road, Aigburth, Liverpool. (October, 1915).

Oakey, W., The Anglers' Inn, Pole Street, Preston. (Orig. Mem.).
Oberholser, Harry C., 2805, 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., U.S.A. (December, 1903).
O'Reilly, Nicholas S., 144, Eastern Road, Kemp Town, Brighton. (Orig Mem.).
Ormsby, Miss E., The Cottage, Silver Field, Harrogate. (June, 1917).

Page, W. T., F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., (*Hon. Editor*), Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey. (May, 1905).
Painter, V. Kenyon, Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A. (November, 1910)
Paterson, Mrs. A. C., 15, Brunswick Gardens, Campden Hill, W. 8. (November, 1908).
Percival, W. G., Nanga, Chania Bridge, British East Africa. (January, 1915)
Perkins, E., Chester Hill, Woodchester, Stroud, Gloucestershire. (Feb. 1903)
Perreau, Mrs. G. A., c/o Messrs. Grindlay & Co., 54, Parliament Street, London, S.W. 1. (September, 1916).
Pettigrew, M., 6, Fifth Avenue, Kelvinside, Glasgow, W. (January, 1920).
Phair, H. J., Broad Street, Alresford. (January, 1912).
Phillips, E. R., 12, Waltham Terrace, Blackrock, Ireland. (September, 1915)
Pike, L. G., F.Z.S., King Barrow, Wareham. (December, 1910).
Pilkington, Lady Kathleen, Chevet Park, Wakefield. (September, 1908).
Pithie, Miss D. E., 68, Clarendon Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, (rejoined January, 1918).
Pollack, A. J., Loretto House, Heaton, Bradford. (August, 1917).
Poltimore, Lady, Court Hall, North Molton, N. Devon. (August, 1911).
Pond, Mrs. T., 174, Upper Parliament Street, Liverpool. (November, 1902).
Pope, Mrs. Howden, Tiverton Devon, (February, 1914).

Powell, Miss M. M., Hawthorn House, Oakhill Park, Old Swan, Liverpool. (May, 1914).

Pullar, Lawrence, H. F., F.Z.S., Dunbarnie Cottage, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire. (October, 1913).

Pyman, E. E., West House, Hartlepool. (May, 1919).

Quincey R., de Quincey, Inglewood, Chislehurst, Kent. (August, 1910).

Ransom, Mrs., 92, Dora Road, Wimbledon Park, S.W., 19. (May, 1919).

Rathborne, H. B., Dreenan, Letter Co., Fermanagh. (November, 1915).

Rattigan, G. E., Lanarkslea, Cornwall Gardens, London, S.W. (March, 1909)

Raynor, Rev. G. H., M.A., Hazeleigh Rectory, Maldon, Essex. (Dec., 1909)

Reeve, Capt. J. S., F.Z.S., Leadenham House, Lincoln. (March, 1908).

Repard, Mrs., Preston St. Mary, Langley Ave., Surbiton, Surrey. (June, 1919)

Restall, J. A., 82, Cambridge Street, Birmingham. (November, 1903).

Rice, Capt. G., Clayquhat, Blairgowrie. (July, 1902).

Robbins, H., 37, New Oxford Street, London, W.C. 1. (October, 1908).

Rogers, W. T., 21, Priory Villas, New Road, Brentwood. (October, 1907).

Rogerson, Mrs., Fleurville, Cheltenham. (February, 1903).

Rotherwell, James E., 153, Sewell Avenue, Brooklyn, Mass., U.S.A. (February, 1911).

Rumsey, Lacy, 23, Rua de Terpa Pinto, Villa Nova re Gaya, Oporto, Portugal. (October, 1911).

Ryan, G. E., (Bar-at-Law), 28, Cleveland Square, Hyde Park, London, W., 2 (November, 1913).

Samuelson, Lady, Hatchford Park, Cobham, Surrey. (July, 1916).

Schuyl, D. G., 12, Toe-Haringylist, Rotterdam, Holland. (January, 1914).

Scott, Capt. B. Hamilton, Hamildean, Ipswich. (July, 1910).

Scott, A. H., Waterside Copse, Liphook, Hants. (October, 1915).

Scott-Miller, R., Clydebank, Uddington. (May, 1913).

Sebag-Montefiore, Mrs., East Cliffe Lodge, Ramsgate. (May, 1914).

Shipton, A J., 71, Cloudesdale Road, Balham, London, S.W. 17 (April, 1913).

Sich, H. L., Corney House, Burlington Lane, Chiswick, London, W. 4. (June, 1908).

Sidgwick, Dr. J. E., "St. Helens," Dryhill Road, Tonbridge. (June, 1918).

Sills, Arthur, "Eyemore," Arley via Bewdley, Worcs. (January, 1911).

Simpson, R. E., c/o Mrs. Allcorn, 2 Railway Cottages, Bottesford, Nottingham. (December, 1907).

Slade, G. J., 34, Milton Road, Fitzhugh, Southampton. (February, 1915).

Smith-Ryland, Mrs., Barford Hill, Warwick. (April, 1909).

Smith, J., Woodlands, Kendal. (January, 1910).

Snape, Maj. A. E., R.F.C., Lower Hall, Mellor, Derbyshire. (March, 1918).

Snarey, H., 21, Leamington Road, Blackburn. (March, 1911).

Somers, Lieut. F. W., A.V.C., T.F., 66, Francis Street, Leeds. (Jan., 1907).

Southcombe, S. L., Hill House, Stoke-under-Ham, Somerset. (Sept., 1910).

Sprankling, E., Brookland Cottage, South Road, Taunton. (February, 1908)

Sprawson, Capt. E., M.C., M.R.C.S., etc., 68, Southwood Lane, Highgate, London, N. 6. (October, 1913).
Sproston, Mrs., The Elm House, Nantwich. (January, 1911).
Steinschen, W. E., 1, Queens Road, Guernsey. (February, 1914).
Stephens, A. J., 86, Balfour Road, Ilford. (February, 1914).
Stewart, B. T., Glenhurst, The Crosspaths, Radlett, Herts. (February, 1914)
Storey, Mrs. A., Summer Hill, Tarporley, Cheshire. (November, 1912).
Stott, A. E., 15, East Parade, Leeds. (January, 1915).
Street, E., The Poplars, Oatwoods, Anslow, Burton-on-Trent. (May, 1909).
Strickland, E. A., 16, Alma Road, Windsor. (May, 1912).
Strong, Herbert, Redlands, Chislehurst Road, Bickley. (April, 1913).
Suggitt, R,. Suggitt's Lane, Cleethorpes, Grimsby. (December, 1903).
Suggitt, W. E., Suggitt's Lane, Cleethorpes, Grimsby. (January, 1915).
Sutcliffe, Albert, Fairholme, Welholme Road, Grimsby. (May, 1907).
Swayne, Henry A., 29, Percy Place, Dublin. (January, 1913).
Sykes, J., 16, Shorthope Street, Musselburgh. (January, 1912).

Taintegines, Baronne le Clement de, Cleveland, Minehead, Somerset. (August, 1913).
Tavistock, The Marquis of, Warblington House, Havant, Hants. (Jan. 1913)
Temple, W. R., Ormonde, Datchet, Windsor. (December, 1908).
Teschemaker, W. E., B.A., Ringmore, Teignmouth. (March, 1907).
Thomson, M., 25, Rothsay Road, Bedford. (January, 1920).
Thorburn, Miss C. W., 99, Edge Lane, Liverpool. (March, 1910).
Thwaites, Dr. Gilbert B., 94, Beaconsfield Road, Brighton. (May, 1910).
Tomassi Baldelli, La Countessa G., 4, Via Silvio, Pelico, Florence, Italy, (December, 1901).
Tomlinson, Malcolm R, Shepherd's House, Inveresk, Midlothian. (April 1913)
Tossizza, Baron M., 15, Rue de Lubeck, Paris, France. (March, 1916).
Townsend, S. M., (*Hon. Exhibitional Secretary*), 3, Swift Street, Fulham. S.W. (Original Member).
Tracy, Mrs. A. L., Halsham, Shaldon, Teignmouth. (February, 1914).
Travers, Mrs. Johnson, Fern Hill, Clonakilty, co. Cork. (December, 1903).
Turner, Herbert J., Tremadoc, Keyberry Road, Newton Abbott. (Feb. 1915)
Turner-Turner, Mrs., Abbey Spring, Beaulieu, Brockenhurst, Hants. (November, 1910).

Urwick, D. R., St. Cross Mill, Winchester. (March, 1913).

Valentine, E., 7, Highfield, Workington. (December, 1911).
Vermillion, D. S., 11 Chester Place, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A. (January, 1920).
Waddell, Miss E. G. R. Peddie, 4 Great Stuart Street, Edinburgh. (Feb. 1909)
Wait, Miss L. M., St. A., 12, Rosary Gardens, South Kensington, London. S.W. (December, 1907).
Walker, J. Carr, Pannal Hall, Pannal, Nr. Harrogate. (March, 1916).
Wallace, Norman H., Ard Brugh, Dalkey, Co. Dublin. (June, 1917).

Walmsley, J., "Dalecot," Mayfield Road, St. Annes-on-Sea (May, 1919).
Ward, Hon. Mrs. Somerset, Greenmount, Newcastle, co. Down. (Oct. 1905)
Watson, S., 37, Tithebarn Street, Preston. (September, 1910).
Waymouth, A. S. H., Gildersbank, Clapham, Lancaster. (Feb., 1919).
Wedge, E., Thorpedale Cottage, Chorley Wood, Rickmansworth, Herts. (February, 1915).
Weir, J., Douglas Cottage, Upper Ashley, New Milton, Hants. (Dec. 1912)
Wellington, H. G., The Duchess of, Ewhurst Park, Basingstoke, Hants. (April, 1918).
Westacott, H., Wellington Hotel, Minehead, Somerset. (September, 1907)
Whistler, Hugh I. P., c/o King, King and Co., Agents, Bombay, India. (January, 1913).
White, A. I., Gleshire, Barrowby Road, Grantham. (November, 1916).
Whitley, H., Primley Hill, Paignton, S. Devon. (January, 1916).
Willford, Henry, (*Hon. Photographer*), Uplands View, Haven Street, Ryde (July, 1908).
Williams, Sidney, F.Z.S., (*Hon. Treasurer and Business Secretary*), "Oakleigh," 110, Riverway, Palmer's Green, London, N. 13. (October, 1910)
Williams, Mrs. C. H., Emanuel Vicarage, Exeter. (January, 1911).
Williamson, T. F. M., 525, Howard Place, South Pasadena, California, U.S.A. (August, 1917).
Wilson, Miss F. M., 35, Emanuel Avenue, Acton, Middlesex. (March, 1906)
Winchilsea and Nottingham, The Countess of, Haverholme Priory, Sleaford (June, 1903).
Windybank, L. A., "Letchmere," 216, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames (June, 1916).
Windham, Lady E., Soham House, Newmarket. (July, 1908).
Wimble, Chas., Thirlmere, South End Road, Beckenham. (December, 1909)
Woodward, Kenneth N., 1, Madison Avenue, New York, U.S.A. (Feb. 1915)
Workman, W. H., F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., Lismore, Windsor, Belfast. (June, 1912)
Wormald, H., Heathfield, East Dereham, Norfolk. (rej. January, 1920).

Yealland, James, Binstead Ryde. (September, 1909).
Young, Miss Constance, Thornhill, Alnwick. (October, 1911).
Young, Lieut. H. R., 77, Mitcham Lane, Streatham, London, S.W., 16. (January, 1920).
Yule, Lady, Hanstead House, Bricket Wood, St. Albans, Herts. (Jan. 1914).

Zoological Society, The New York, 185th Street and Southern Boulevard, New York, U.S.A. (March, 1917).
Zoological Society of Philadelphia, The, Philadelphia, Penna, U.S.A. (January, 1920).

The Hon. Business Secretary requests that he may be promptly informed of any errors in the above List.

LIST OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES for 1920 will be given in next issue.

The Foreign Bird Club.

President :

The Lady Dunleath

Vice-Presidents :

H. R. Filmer
E. Hopkinson, D.S O., M-A., M.B.
E. J. Brook, F.Z.S.

Council :

H.G. The Duchess of Wellington
The Countess of Winchilsea
Lady Kathleen Pilkington
The Hon. Mrs. G. Bourke
Mrs. A. E. H. Hartley
Dr. M. Amsler
W. Shore Baily
W. A. Bainbridge, A.S.C.
W. Bamford
H. Bright
E. W. Chaplin
L. F. Lovell-Keays. M B., R.A.M.C., F.Z.S.
Dr. N. S. Lucas
Dr. J. E. R. McDonagh
Capt. G. E. Rattigan
Rev. G. H. Raynor, M.A.
W. T. Rogers
Maj. A. E. Snape, R.A.
R. Suggitt
A. Sutcliffe
W. R. Temple
H. Willford

Hon. Editor :

Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., M.B., Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

Hon. Secretaries :

Hon, Treasurer and Business Secretary : Sidney Williams, F.Z S., "Oakleigh" 110 Riverway, Palmer's Green, London. N.13.

Hon. Exhibitional Secretary : Stanley M. Townsend, 3 Swift Street, London, S.W.

Hon. Solicitor :

H. R. Filmer, Church Street, Brighton

Hon. Photographer :

H. Willford, Upland View, Havenstreet, Ryde.

Magazine Committe :

Dr. M. Amsler
W. Shore Baily
Maj. E. A. Snape
H. Gray M R C.V.S.
Capt. N. S. Lucas, R.A.M.C.
L. Lovell-Keays, M.B. R.A.M.C. F.Z.S.
Dr. J. E. R. McDonagh
Rev. G. H. Raynor, M.A.
R. Suggitt
H. Willford

Show Committee :

W. A. Bainbridge
Lady Kathleen Pilkington
The Hon. Mrs. G. Bourke
Stanley M. Townsend, (Hon. Sec.)

Social Committee :

H. G. The Duchess of Wellington
Hon. Mrs. G. Bourke
Mrs. E. A. H. Hartley
W. R. Temple
W. Bamford
W T. Rogers (Hon. Sec.)
A. Sutcliffe

Awards Committe :

The Countess of Winchilsea
H. Bright
E. W. Chaplin
Capt. G. E. Rattigan

R. Suggitt (Hon. Sec.)

Auditor.	Scrutineer.
C. F. Crow.	E. E. Bentley.

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

Both these funds need all the help that members can give them. The Committee acknowledge with best thanks the following donations :

	£	s.	d.
Barnard. T. T.	1	10	0

Proposed for Election as Members.

F. R. Child, Braemar, The Downs, Luton, Beds.
By T. Hebb.

Capt. D. G. Lowndes, Lansdowne, Garwhal, U.P., India
By the Hon. Editor.

New Members Elected.

Dr. S. Nairne. (Dreadnought), Greenwich, S.E., 10.
M. Thomson, 25, Rothsay Road, Bedford.
T. Goodwin, 126, Old Kent Road, London, S.E.
Zological Society of Philadelphia The. Philadelphia. Penna. U.S.A.
H. Wormald, Heathfield, Dereham, Norfolk.

Changes and Corrections of Address.

Mrs. N. J. Travers, to Kingcraigie. Courtmacskerry. Co. Cork, Ireland.

Errata Re Roll.

Should read : Gosse, Philip, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., Saville Club, Picadilly London, W.

Register of Club Breeders.

(For regulations *vide* B.N., page 98).

* Indicates ability to supply as soon as young are old enough to be moved.

* The Marquis of Tavistock, Warblington House, Havant, Hants.,
Stanley Parrakeets.

* Baily, W., Shore, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.
Rosella Parrakeets
Stanley Parrakeets
Conures
Bronze-wing Doves
Brush Bronze-wing Doves
Necklace Doves
Diamond Doves

* Burgess, Mrs. M., Kingsweir, 52, Clarendon Road, Redland Bristol.
Blue Budgerigars
Olive Budgerigars
Green-Blue Bred Budgerigars (from France)
Yellow Budgerigars
Roller Canaries

Clare, Miss L., The Hollies, Coombe Lane, Wimbledon, London.
Budgerigars, Blue × Green.

* Chatterton, Mrs. A., 11, Fairfield Road, Crouch End London, N., 8
Cockateels
Budgerigars

* Calvocoressi, P. J., Holme Hey, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool.
Zebra Finches.
Blue-bred Green Budgerigars.

* Marsden, J, F.Z.S., The Bungalow, Banks Lane, Heysham Harbour, Lancs
Green (Blue-bred) Budgerigars

* Smith, J., Woodlands, Kendal.
Stanley Parrakeets.
Many-colour Parrakeets.

* Pithie, Miss D., 68, Clarendon Road, Southsea, Portsmouth
Zebra Finches.

* Money, Sir L., The Grey House, Hampstead Lane, Highgate, London, N.6
Swainson's Lorikeets (Prefers to exchange with members, but willing to sell).

* Montefiore, Mrs. H. Sebag, East Cliff Lodge, Ramsgate.
Green Budgerigars.
Cockateels.

* Tracey, Mrs. A. L., Halsham, Teignmouth, Devon.
Zebra Finches.

It must be noticed, this is the commencement of the above register, and that with the exception of the first named, these Club Breeders may not have adult stock to dispose of, and that their supplies will mainly depend upon the season's successes; but members may make prospective bookings with them. All have pairs which have bred during last and other seasons, and thus may reasonably be expected to do so again. It is hoped many other members will register as Club Breeders. A descriptive catalogue will be issued as early as possible.

The Bird Market.

MEMBERS' RATES: Four words a penny; minimum fourpence. Non-members and displayed rates on application. Advertisements should be sent to the Hon. Editor by the 8th of each month.

MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

FOR SALE Few pairs Blue-bred Budgerigars, beautiful colour, 30s. pair; also pair Yellows two years old, anxious to breed, 30s.

WANTED—Hen Cockateel, about year old preferred, would exchange for two years old cock. All out-door Aviary bred.—Mrs. Mackness, 22 Cypress Road, Finchley, London, N., 3.

WANTED—Orange Bishops, Avadavats, Cordon Bleus and other foreign finches.—Mrs. Pope, Howden, Tiverton, Devon.

FOR SALE—Very fine cock Monaul & Cock Nepalese Kalagee, or would exchange for Hens.—W. Shore Baily, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.

FOR SALE Sittings of Eggs, Ancona, Brown Leghorn, Buff Orpington, and Buff Rocks, 10/6 per sitting of 15, no exchanges, only best utility strains kept. Also Belgian & Flemish Rabbits.—Page, Langstone, Lingfield.

FOR SALE: Fine Adult Stanley Parrakeet, hen, perfect condition, mad on mating.—Smith, Woodlands, Kendal.

FOR SALE—Sittings of Eggs from pedigree laying hens, from 10s.6d. to 21s. a sitting: day old chicks double. Breeds: White Wyandotte, White Leghorn, and Rhode Island Reds (S C), full pedigree sent—no exhibition birds kept.—W. A. Bainbridge, Tarrant Keyneston Manor, Blandford, Dorset.

PRIVATELY IMPORTED:

King Vulture. *Otygyps calvus.*
Pair Bengal Eagle-Owls *Bubo bengalenis.*
Wandering Tree-Pie *Dendrocitta rufa.*
a Jungle Mynahs *Æthiospar fuscus.*
a Grey-headed Mynahs *Poliopsar malabarica.*
Pair Adjutant Storks *Liptoptilus javanicus.*
a Ruddy Shelducks *Casarca rutila*
Blue-cheeked Barbets *Cyanops asiatica.*
a Red-whiskered Bulbuls *Otocompsa emeria.*
a Red-vented Bulbuls *Molpastes bengalensis*
White-backed Vulture *Pseudogyps bengalensis.*
a Bengal Black Bulbul *Pycnonotus pygaeus.*

a Can be supplied in true pairs; others cannot be guaranteed male and female, but every precaution will be taken to prevent error. All in good health and mostly in good plumage. W. T. Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

De VON & Co.,

127, KING'S CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.,

Write for Price Lists of Birds, Animals, Reptiles, Fish, etc.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Notice to Members.

Post Mortem Examinations: Dr. N. S. Lucas has kindly consented to accept the position of Hon. Pathologist to the club, and will undertake post mortem examinations for members free—for regulations see page ii of cover. Members are strongly urged to only ask for an immediate reply in cases of urgency. Reports will be published monthly in Bird Notes.

Subscriptions: Some of our members who pay by Banker's Order neglected to have these altered when subscription was raised to 20s., and they therefore owe 10s. for 1919, and the same for this year; will they please remit the Hon. Sec. 20s. to cover this, and instruct their bankers to alter Order? Also will those who have not yet paid their subscriptions for current year kindly remit same at once, so as to avoid the necessity of the Hon. Sec. having to make postal application for same?

The Magazine: The Hon. Editor still needs copy, so as to keep contents of our Journal varied and thus meet the need of every section of our membership. Will members kindly re-read the notices in last issue and co-operate in this?

WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*
SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

Both these funds need all the help that members can give them. The Committee acknowledge with best thanks the following donations:

	£	s.	d.
Strong, H.	1	3	0
Suggitt, R.	0	10	0

New Members Elected.

F. R. Child, Braemar, The Downs, Luton, Bedford.
Capt. D. G. Lowndes, Lansdowne. Garwhal, U.P., India.

Proposed for Election as Members.

M. L. Livings, 39, Cambridge Road, Gunnersbury, London, W., 4.
By the Hon. Editor.

A. King, 1101, South Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena, California, U.S.A.
By T. F. M. Williamson.

Add to Roll.

Allen Silver, 18 Baneswell Road, Newport, Mon.

Changes and Corrections of Address.

Mrs. Burgess to Helston House, 56 St. John's Road, Clifton, Bristol.

H. Whistler, to Battle, Sussex.

E. W. Harper to 6 Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

M. G. Rattigan to Lanarksled, Cornwall Gardens, London, S.W.

Register of Club Breeders.

(For regulations *vide* B.N., page 98).

• Indicates ability to supply as soon as young are old enough to be moved.

• The Marquis of Tavistock, Warblington House, Havant, Hants.,
Stanley Parrakeets.

• Baily, W., Shore, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.
Rosella Parrakeets
Stanley Parrakeets
Conures
Bronze-wing Doves
Brush Bronze-wing Doves
Necklace Doves
Diamond Doves

• Burgess, Mrs. M., Helston House, 56 St. John's Road, Clifton, Bristol.
Blue Budgerigars
Olive Budgerigars
Green-Blue Bred Budgerigars (from France).
Yellow Budgerigars
Roller Canaries.

Clare, Miss L., The Hollies, Coombe Lane, Wimbledon, London.
Budgerigars, Blue × Green.

• Chatterton, Mrs. A., 11, Fairfield Road, Crouch End London, N., 8
Cockateels
Budgerigars

• Calvocoressi, P. J., Holme Hey, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool.
Zebra Finches.
Blue-bred Green Budgerigars.

• Marsden, J, F.Z.S., The Bungalow, Banks Lane, Heysham Harbour, Lancs
Green (Blue-bred) Budgerigars

• Smith, J., Woodlands, Kendal.
Stanley Parrakeets.
Many-colour Parrakeets.

• Pithie, Miss D., 68, Clarendon Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.
Zebra Finches.

• Money, Sir L., The Grey House, Hampstead Lane, Highgate, London, N.6
Swainson's Lorikeets (Prefers to exchange with members, but willing to sell).

• Montefiore, Mrs. H. Sebag, East Cliff Lodge, Ramsgate.
Green Budgerigars.
Cockateels.

• Tracey, Mrs. A. L., Halsham, Teignmouth, Devon.
Zebra Finches.

It must be noticed, this is the commencement of the above register, and that with the exception of the first named, these Club Breeders may not have adult stock to dispose of, and that their supplies will mainly depend upon the season's successes; but members may make prospective bookings with them.

All have pairs which have bred during last and other seasons, and thus may reasonably be expected to do so again. It is hoped many other members will register as Club Breeders. A descriptive catalogue will be issued as early as possible.

The Bird Market.

MEMBERS' RATES: **Four words a penny; minimum fourpence.** Non-members and displayed rates on application. **Advertisements should be sent to the Hon. Editor by the 8th of each month.**

MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

WANTED—Orange Bishops, Avadavats, Cordon Bleus and other foreign finches—Mrs. Pope, Howden, Tiverton, Devon.

FOR SALE—Sittings of Eggs, Ancona, Brown Leghorn, Buff Orpington, and Buff Rocks, 10/6 per sitting of 15, no exchanges, only best utility strains kept. Also Belgian & Flemish Rabbits.—Page, Langstone, Lingfield.

FOR SALE—Sittings of Eggs from pedigree laying hens, from 10s 6d. to 21s. a sitting; day old chicks double. Breeds: White Wyandotte, White Leghorn, and Rhode Island Reds (S.C.), full pedigree sent—no exhibition birds kept,—W. A. Bainbridge, Tarrant Keyneston Manor, Blandford, Dorset.

HOMES FOR BIRDS: Birds well cared for in private house while owners are away on holiday. Terms according to requirements. Particulars of M. Thomson, 25, Rothsay Road, Bedford.

FOR SALE: Two pairs red Gouldians, 1 pair black Gouldians, and 3 Long-tailed Grassfinches. What offers? E. W. Chaplin, Great Amwell, Herts.

PRIVATELY IMPORTED. FOR SALE:

King Vulture *(Otogyps calvus).*
Bengal Eagle-Owl *(Bubo bengalensis).*
* Jungle Mynahs *(Æthiospar fuscus).*
* Grey-headed Mynahs *(Poliopsar malabarica).*
Ruddy Shelducks *(Casarca rutila).* 1 ♂ and 2 ♀
* Blue-cheeked Barbets *(Cyanops asiatica).*
* Red-vented Bulbuls *(Molpastes bengalensis).*
White-backed Vulture *(Pseudogyps bengalensis).*
Greater Button Quail, 2 ♂ and 1 ♀
Argoondah Quail, male only.
Avadavats, 2 males only, 6s. 6d. each.

* Have a true pair of each. All in good health and plumage.—W. T. Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

FOR SALE: Complete Vols. of BIRD NOTES, in perfect condition, for 1913, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19; will exchange for Zebra Finches, or accept any reasonable cash offer.—Smith, Woodlands, Kendal.

De VON & Co.,

127, KING'S CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.,

Write for Price Lists of Birds, Animals, Reptiles, Fish, etc.

LIST OF COLOURED PLATES.

which have appeared in BIRD NOTES, the Journal of the Club.

Gold and Green Tanager
Orange-flanked Parrakeet
Vinaceous Firefinch
Yellow Sparrow
Three-coloured Tanager
* Cornish Chough
Indian Roller
Blue-tailed Fruit-Pigeon
Black-backed Tanager
* Golden-crowned Conure
Senegal Parrot
Sepoy Finch
Waxwing
Gouldian Finch
Bronze Cuckoo
Superb Tanager
Haw-headed Parrot
Group of Spermophila
Green-billed Toucan
Yellow-winged Sugarbird
Blue, and Maroon Tanagers
Colombian and Hooded Siskins
* Mexican or Green Jay
Black-cheeked Tanager
Violet or Dusky Parrot
Painted Finch
Great or Giant Barbet
Cuban Trogan
Rainbow Bunting
Black-winged Lory
Flame-breasted Flower-pecker.
A Beautiful Aviary
* Stellas' Lories
Blue-billed Weaver
Black and Yellow Creeper
Uvæan Parrakeet
Hunstein's Bird of Paradise
Blue Budgerigar
Loo Choo Robin
Purple Sunbird and Great-billed Flycatcher
* Queen Alexandra Parrakeet
Crimson-ringed Whydah
Indian White-eyes
Fairy Blue-Bird
Blue-rumped Parrot
Melba, and Red-faced Finches.
Red-breasted Flycatcher
Large Niltava
Red-spotted Conure
Parrot Finches (7 figs.)
Blue and Black, and Vieillot's Tanagers
Jerdon's Green Bulbul
Malabar, and Gold-fronted Green Bulbuls
Red-billed Blue-Pie
Red-tailed Muila
Brown-backed Robin
Sunbirds

Any of the above, mostly hand-coloured, Plates can be obtained from the Publisher,

Price 1/6 each, except those marked * which are 1/- each.
Postage 1d. extra.

J H. HENSTOCK, AVIAN PRESS, ASHBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Notice to Members.

LATE ISSUE OF BIRD NOTES: The Editor much regrets the late appearance of this and previous issues, but this has been due to a combination of circumstances quite beyond his control. One good result of waiting for copy is the absence in this issue of articles from his pen. He again urges the importance of an increased number of members contributing to the contents of the Club Journal, and requests that members will re-read the notices which have appeared in recent issues of B.N. (green page inset), and co-operate freely with him, that now times are becoming more normal, the Journal may be largely a record of events in our aviaries, and also to keep B.N. a journal of practical aviculture.

WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*
SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

These two funds need all the help that members can give them. Donations will be gratefully acknowledged by the Hon. Treasurer.

Proposed for Election as Members.

W. W .Smith, 43, Connaught Road, Harlesden, London, N. W., 10.
By the Hon. Editor.

New Members Elected.

M. L. Livings, 39, Cambridge Road, Gunnersbury, London, W., 4.
A. King, 1101, South Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena, California, U.S.A.

Register of Club Breeders.

Vide last issue green pages 24-5.

The Bird Market.

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MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

FOR SALE: Large number of quarter-plate negatives—bird photographs, 2s. 6d. per dozen. Many beautiful bird skins, and library of aviculture. List 1½d.—Rectory, Nash, Stony-Stratford.

FOR SALE: An exceedingly fine adult Red-rump Parrakeet, male—in outdoor aviary. Offers requested also, for the last five years' BIRD NOTES, perfect condition.—Mrs. Travis, Pedmore Grange, Stourbridge.

FOR SALE: Fine pair Blue-fronted Amazon Parrots, quite ready for breeding, no dealers.—M.D., c/o Hon. Editor, BIRD NOTES, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

FOR SALE: Gold-fronted Green Fruitsucker, tame and in fine condition.—Miss A. B. Smythe, 1 Priory Road, Kew, Surrey.

FOR SALE: Private Consignment of Doves (*Zenaida aurita*), direct from Barbadoes.—W. T. Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

FOR SALE—Sittings of Eggs from pedigree laying hens, from 10s 6d. to 21s. a sitting; day old chicks double. Breeds: White Wyandotte, White Leghorn, and Rhode Island Reds (S.C.), full pedigree sent—no exhibition birds kept,—W. A. Bainbridge, Tarrant Keyneston Manor, Blandford, Dorset.

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Write for Price Listsof Birds, Animals, Reptiles, Fieh, etc.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Notice to Members.

UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS.—There are still some subscriptions outstanding and it is necessary to the welfare of the Club that these should be paid at once. Surely, with the increased postal rates. and cost of paper still soaring upward, no member will allow the secretary to have to make postal application to them?

CLUB MEETINGS AT ZOO.—It is suggested from several sources that these should be renewed. We therefore fix Saturday, July 17th, for the first of these meetings, *rendezvous*, Small Birds' House, 2 p.m., when arrangements can be made as to future similar gatherings.

LATE ISSUE OF B.N.—The sole cause has been that the many calls upon the Editor's time have made it impossible for it to appear earlier, but he hopes that future issues may appear nearer the proper publishing date. Members can help by sending in copy *at once.*

WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*
SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

These two funds need all the help members can, or are disposed, to give them. The Committee acknowledge with best thanks the following donations:

	£	s.	d.
Bright, H. E.	1	0	0
Hebb, T.	0	10	0

Changes and Corrections of Address.

Dennis, Mrs. H., to Lisle Court. Wooton, Isle of Wight.

Proposed for Election as Members.

Newell, W., Croxley Green, Herts.
By the Hon. Sec.

Laveaga. J. V. de; Mills Building, San Francisco, Cal., U.S.A.

New Member Elected.

W. W .Smith, 43, Connaught Road, Harlesden, London, N. W., 10.

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(For regulations *vide* B.N., page 98).

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* Baily, W., Shore, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.
Rosella Parrakeets
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Blue Budgerigars
Olive Budgerigars
Green-Blue Bred Budgerigars (from France).
Yellow Budgerigars
Roller Canaries.

Clare, Miss L., The Hollies, Coombe Lane, Wimbledon, London.
Budgerigars, Blue × Green.

* Chatterton, Mrs. A., 11, Fairfield Road, Crouch End London, N., 8
Cockateels

Budgerigars

* Calvocoressi, P. J., Holme Hey, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool.

Zebra Finches

Blue-bred Green Budgerigars.

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Zebra Finches

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◆

MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

FOR SALE: Pen (cock and 2 hens) Swinhoe's Pheasants, 6 guineas; 1 pair Pennant's Parrakeets, 6 guineas; 3 Rose-breasted Cockatoos (2 cocks and 1 hen), 4 guineas; 1 Ring-necked Parrakeet, 30s.; all from outdoor aviary and in good condition. No dealers.—A. Williams, 3, Manor Road, St. Thomas', Exeter.

FOR SALE: True pair Leadbeater's Cockatoos, in large cage 3ft. × 2ft.; one bird talks, condition and health perfect, 15 guineas; hen Quaker Parrakeet, talker, finger tame, lays eggs each year, with cage 30s.—Bainbridge, Tarrant Keyneston Manor, Blandford.

FOR SALE: Healthy, strong, young Blue Budgerigars, pure bred Blues. £10 each.—T. Hebb, Brooklea, The Downs, Luton, Beds.

FOR SALE: Fine acclimatised Red-rump Parrakeet (cock); also Bird Notes complete, as new, 1911 to 1919 inclusive, any reasonable offer accepted. Also 1 dozen small Waxbills and Finches—changing residence.—Mrs. Travis, Pedmore Grange, Stourbridge.

FOR SALE: Gold-fronted Green Fruitsucker, tame and in fine condition.—Miss A. B. Smythe, 1 Priory Road, Kew, Surrey.

FOR SALE: Private Consignment of Doves (*Zenaida aurita*), direct from Barbadoes.—W. T. Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

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• Golden-crowned Conure
Senegal Parrot
Sepoy Finch
Waxwing
Gouldian Finch
Bronze Cuckoo
Superb Tanager
Haw-headed Parrot
Group of Spermophila
Green-billed Toucan
Yellow-winged Sugarbird
Blue, and Maroon Tanagers
Colombian and Hooded Siskins
• Mexican or Green Jay
Black-cheeked Tanager
Violet or Dusky Parrot
Painted Finch
Great or Giant Barbet
Cuban Trogan
Rainbow Bunting
Black-winged Lory
Flame-breasted Flower-pecker.
A Beautiful Aviary
• Stellas' Lories
Blue-billed Weaver
Black and Yellow Creeper
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Hunstein's Bird of Paradise
Blue Budgerigar
Loo Choo Robin
Purple Sunbird and Great-billed Flycatcher
• Queen Alexandra Parrakeet
Crimson-ringed Whydah
Indian White-eyes
Fairy Blue-Bird
Blue-rumped Parrot
Melba, and Red-faced Finches.
Red-breasted Flycatcher
Large Niltava
Red-spotted Conure
Parrot Finches (7 figs.)
Blue and Black, and Vieillot's Tanagers
Jerdon's Green Bulbul
Malabar, and Gold-fronted Green Bulbuls
Red-billed Blue-Pie
Red-tailed Muila
Brown-backed Robin
Sunbirds

◆

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Price 1/6 each, except those marked * which are 1/- each. Postage 1d. extra.

◆

J. H. HENSTOCK, Avian Press, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Notice to Members.

Gatherings at zoo etc.—The first of these, as announced in last issue, will take place on Saturday, July 17th, at the London Zoo—*rendezvous*, Small Birds' House, 2 p.m.,—a good muster is hoped for.

Club Journal.—Members can materially assist the Hon. Editor in getting the issue of "B.N" nearer the proper publishing date, by sending in copy early—so many of our most regular contributors have, during the past 2 or 3 years, crossed the "*beyond*" that all must, or should, feel it a duty to assist in making good the breach.

SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*

New Members Elected.

Newell, W., Croxley Green, Herts.
Laveaga, J. V. de; Mills Building, San Francisco, Cal., U.S.A.

Proposed for Election as Members.

Dennis, Mrs. Cyril., Broxton Old Hall, near Handley, Cheshire.
By Mrs. H. Dennis.

Changes and Corrections of Address.

Brodie, Miss C. Coed-y-wiw, Llanharry, Glamorgan, S. Wales.

Register of Club Breeders.

See last issue –Green pages 29 and 30.

The Bird Market.

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MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

FOR SALE: Two pairs of large, adult Green Budgerigars, one cock blue-bred, 30s. pair.—Mrs. E. G. Davies, St. Anns', Tintern, near Chepstow.

FOR SALE: Perfect and thoroughly acclimatised cock Red-rump Parrakeet; also Bird Notes, 1911 to 1919 inclusive, 2 or 3 vols. bound, rest in loose part, but perfect and as new, with all plates complete; no reasonable offer refused.—Mrs. Travis, Pedmore Grange, Stourbridge.

FOR SALE: Pairs, young Diamond Doves, 60s. pair, Peaceful Doves 40s. pair, Senegal-Necklace Doves 30s. pair.—W. Shore Bailey, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.

FOR SALE: Aurita Doves, privately imported, ready to go to nest.—Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

FOR SALE : Black-necked Grackle, and White-crested Jay Thrush, £5 each ; pair young Triangular Spotted Pigeons (aviary bred) 40s. ; odd Bush Lark 20s.—Capt. Reeve, Leadenham House, Lincoln.

WANTED to purchase or rent a Modern House or Bungalow on South or S.W. coast. Near station, 3 Reception, 5 bedrooms, garage or good outbuildings and secluded garden essential. Must be freehold and detached. Possession any time 1920. Particulars and photos.—Mrs. Travis. Pedmore Grange, Stourbridge.

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* Stellas' Lories
Blue-billed Weaver
Black and Yellow Creeper
Uvæan Parrakeet
Hunstein's Bird of Paradise
Blue Budgerigar
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J. H. HENSTOCK, AVIAN PRESS, ASHBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

JULY, 1920.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Notice to Members.

IMPORTANT: Late Issue of Journal, etc.—The Hon. Editor much regrets this, and though he, and not the printer, is at fault, nevertheless, the circumstances are mostly beyond his control.

Members of F.B.C. fail to recognise that the officials who serve the club are all *honorary*, and willingly so because of their interest in its welfare—there are two or three phases in which this is particularly noticeable. viz:

(1) There are fully one hundred members, who annually, decline to pay their subscriptions till they have received one or more postal applications from the Honorary Secretary. This not only involves unnecessary waste of club funds, but also a similar waste of Sec.'s time and patience, and, if, in the end, the club should find itself without a Secretary surely they will not be surprised!

(2) Copy has been short and very late in coming in, consequently B.N. has been late in appearing. The Hon. Editor cannot devote the whole of his time to B.N., even in any given one week, and this with copy late is what must be done if we are not to be behind time; the latter has had to occur, and above all, under conditions of "rush," the preparation of B.N. cannot receive the attention it should, and, in consequence annoying errors mar its pages, which otherwise would not appear. With our roll, we should be a month ahead with copy, then the editor's task would be a pleasure instead of almost a burden.

While on this topic, we think we ought to state the case plainly. F.B.C is a Society publishing a Journal which is costly to produce, absorbing the whole of the annual subscriptions, even at the increased rate of 20s. per annum; for, *again* this year cost of paper and labour has advanced—your officers periodically have heavy bills to meet. It must be obvious to every member, who troubles to think at all, that unless subscriptions are paid with reasonable promptness the ultimate outcome can only be DISSOLUTION.

We have lost many members from the war and its aftermath, but we are, nevertheless, if somewhat slowly, at least steadily increasing our membership. As to the future there should be no uncertainty; it only remains for each member to do his, or her, individual part, viz: To pay subscriptions when due. i.e. on January 1st of each year. To introduce new members as opportunity offers. To take their part in supplying copy for the Club Journal.

We ask the careful consideration of the above by every member, and also their co-operation. Success and prosperity are assured, but if officials are left to do all, and there is general *slackness* among the members. on the lines indicated above. *then there can be only one obvious ultimate issue*, though the energy of successive officials may stave it off for quite a long time

SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

These two funds need all the help members can, or are disposed, to give them. The Committee acknowledge with best thanks the following donations:

	£	s.	d.
Mundy. Miss S.	1	10	0

Changes and Corrections of Address.

Miss S. Mundy to. Grendon Hall. Grendon, Northampton.

Proposed for Election as Member.

F. Prior, Nala Lodge, Stoke Hill, Worplesden, Guildford.
By the Hon. Editor and Mrs. C. A. Longdon.

New Members Elected.

Dennis. Mrs. Cyril, Broxton Old Hall, near Handley. Cheshire.
Newell, W., in last issue should read, Newall, W.

Register of Club Breeders.

Vide Magazine—Green pages 29 and 30.

The Bird Market.

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FOR SALE: Lesser Green Macaw and round parrot cage, health and condition perfect. 6 guineas.—Theo Foster. Fairlight, Babbacombe, S. Devon.

FOR SALE: True breeding pair of adult Rosella Parrakeets, also York shire, and Roller Canaries. outdoor bred. WANTED: breeding pairs of unrelated Cockateels; Grey and White Java Sparrows; and Ribbon or any other small Finches.—Mrs. Chatterton, 11 Fairfield Road, Hornsey. London. N., 8.

WANTED: Cock Swainson's Lorikeet; also a true pair of Purple-capped Lories.—Mrs. Longdon, Arreton, Epsom Road, Guildford, Surrey.

WANTED: Copy of "Aviaries and Aviary Life" by Page.—W. T. Page, Langstone. Lingfield, Surrey.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Notice to Members.

Members are requested to carefully note the notices in last issue, green page, 34, as the welfare of the F.B.C. lies in a general compliance therewith.

SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*

◆

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

These two funds need all the help members are disposed to give them The Committee acknowledge with best thanks the following donations:

	£	s.	d.
Anon.	0	5	0

◆

New Members Elected.

F. Prior, Nala Lodge, Stoke Hill, Worplesden, Guildford.
D. S. Rabb, Inglewood, California, U.S.A.

◆

Proposed for Election as Members.

A. Ainsworth, 13 Henry Street, Kilbronie, Wellington, New Zealand.
By S. Williams.
Capt. F .B. Atkinson, Gallowhill, Morpeth, Northumberland.
By L. E. H. Hyde-Clarke.
Sidney Porter, Selwyn House. Old Normanton, Derby.
By Mrs. Burgess. and the Hon. Editor.
Y. H. Mills, M.M., F.R.C.S., 27 Hill Street, Haverfordwest.
By the Hon. Editor.

◆

Changes and Corrections of Address.

L. A. Windybank to Blean Hyost, Blean, Near Canterbury.
C. E. Dell, to 9 Greenhill Road, Harrow.
Mrs. Pond, to Wylfa, Llangollen, Wales.

Register of Club Breeders.

Vide May Issue—Green pages 29 and 30.

The Bird Market.

Members' Rates: Four words a penny; minimum fourpence. Non-members and displayed rates on application. Advertisements should be sent to the Hon. Editor by the 8th of each month.

MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

FOR SALE: Young Triangular-spotted Pigeons, 18s. each; young cock Red-rump, 50s., White-crested Jay-Thrush, 90s.—Capt. Reeve, Leadenham House, Lincoln.

FOR SALE: Fine Singapore Mynah, make good talker, £5; pairs: Diamond, Peaceful, and Necklace × Senegal (hybrid) Doves.—W. Shore Baily, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.

FOR SALE: Cock Ring-neck Pheasant, 21s.; pair Aurita Doves, ready to go to nest, 40s.—Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

WANTED: Young Rosella Parrakeets.—Hawkins, Belvedere, Streetly Lane, Sutton Coldfield.

De VON & Co.,

Send for price lists.—127, King's Cross Road, London, W.C. 1.

Senegal, Necklace, and Ringed Doves. 18s. per pair; Masked Doves, 25s. pair; Senegal Finches, 30s. per dozen mixed. Parrots, Cockatoos, Chamaeleons, Snakes, Tortoises, Lizards, Fish, and all aquatic requirements.

De VON & Co.

SEPTEMBER, 1920.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

These two funds need all the help members are disposed to give them.

New Members Elected.

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Capt. F .B. Atkinson, Gallowhill, Morpeth, Northumberland.
Sidney Porter, Selwyn House. Old Normanton, Derby.
Y. H. Mills, M.B., F.R.C.S., 27 Hill Street, Haverfordwest.

Proposed for Election as Members.

Birbeck, W. Stoke Holy Cross, Norwich.
By G. H. Gurney and S. Williams.

Changes and Corrections of Address.

Dennis, Mrs. Cyril to Oakley Hall, Market Drayton, Salop.
Brodie, Miss C., to 25 Francis Street, London, W.C.1.
Bamford, W., to Dunelm, Cornwall Road, Harrogate.
Stephens, A. J. to Mount Pleasant, Wesley, Essex.
Storey, Mrs. K., to Hawling Manor, Andoverford, Glos.

The Bird Market.

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WANTED: Young Rosella Parrakeets.—Hawkins, Belvedere, Streetly Lane, Sutton Coldfield.

WANTED: Hen Pekin Robin, cock Indigo Bunting.—Duchess of Wellington, Ewhurst Park, Basingstoke.

FOR SALE: Pair Swainson's Lorrikeets, pair Cockateels, pair Grenadier Weavers, pair St. Helena Waxbills, pair Indian Silverbills, pair Sikhim Siskins, pair Green Cardinals, 2 cock Apple-green Budgerigars, 1 cock Crimson-crowned Weaver, 1 cock Avadavat, 1 Black-headed Sebia (very fine) 2 cock Zebra Finches, 1 hen Red-crested Cardinal, 2 young Stanley Parrakeets, pair Aurita Doves pair Euopean Turtle Doves, 1 (? hen) year old Bengal Parrakeet, all acclimatised and from outdoor aviary.—Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

FOR SALE: Pair Diamond Doves, 35/-; Peaceful Doves, 25/-; Bay-fronted Starlings, breeders 50/-; Gold finch × Sikhim Siskin, 40/-; Spice × Bibfinch, 25/-, Cock, Giant Whydah, 50/-; Abysinnian Weaver 25/-; Red Ground Dove, 30/-.—William Shore Baily Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.

Register of Club Breeders.

Vide May Issue—Green pages 29 and 30.

LIST OF COLOURED PLATES.

which have appeared in Bird Notes, the Journal of the Club.

- Gold and Green Tanager
- Orange-flanked Parrakeet
- Vinaceous Firefinch
- Yellow Sparrow
- Three-coloured Tanager
- * Cornish Chough
- Indian Roller
- Blue-tailed Fruit-Pigeon
- Black-backed Tanager
- * Golden-crowned Conure
- Senegal Parrot
- Sepoy Finch
- Waxwing
- Gouldian Finch
- Bronze Cuckoo
- Superb Tanager
- Haw-headed Parrot
- Group of Spermophila
- Green-billed Toucan
- Yellow-winged Sugarbird
- Blue, and Maroon Tanagers
- Colombian and Hooded Siskins
- * Mexican or Green Jay
- Black-cheeked Tanager
- Violet or Dusky Parrot
- Painted Finch
- Great or Giant Barbet
- Cuban Trogan
- Rainbow Bunting
- Black-winged Lory
- Flame-breasted Flower-pecker.
- A Beautiful Aviary
- * Stellas' Lories
- Blue-billed Weaver
- Black and Yellow Creeper
- Uvæan Parrakeet
- Hunstein's Bird of Paradise
- Blue Budgerigar
- Loo Choo Robin
- Purple Sunbird and Great-billed Flycatcher
- * Queen Alexandra Parrakeet
- Crimson-ringed Whydah
- Indian White-eyes
- Fairy Blue-Bird
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The Foreign Bird Club.

Notice to Members.

IMPORTANT: Members are requested to re-peruse the notices in July issue, green page 34, as these have an important bearing on the well-being of the Club.

OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS: A few of these are still outstanding; all members who have not yet sent in, are requested to do so at once, so that the year's accounts may be promptly closed.

SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*
WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

These two funds need all the help members can give them; the treasurer will thankfully acknowledge the smallest contribution.

New Members Elected.

Birbeck, W. Stoke Holy Cross, Norwich.

Proposed for Election as Members.

S. Murray, 14 Beauford Gardens, Lewisham, S.E., London.
By T. Hebb.

Changes and Corrections of Address.

Sir L. C. Money, to Royal Services Club, St. James' Street, S.W., 1, London.

Register of Club Breeders.

Vide May Issue—Green pages 29 and 30.

The Bird Market.

MEMBERS' RATES: **Four words a penny; minimum fourpence.** Non-members and displayed rates on application. **Advertisements should be sent to the Hon. Editor by the 8th of each month.**

MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

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FOR SALE: Pair Swainson's Lorikeets, pair Grenadier Weavers, pai Indian Silverbills, pair Sikhim Siskin, pair Green Cardinals, 2 cock Apple green Budgerigars, 1 cock Crimson-crowned Weaver, 1 cock Avadavat, 1 St. Helena Waxbill, 1 Black-headed Sebia (very fine), 2 cock Zebra Finches, 1 hen Red-crested Cardinal, 2 young Stanley Parrakeets, pair Aurita Doves, pair European Turtle Doves, 1 (? hen) year old Bengal Parrakeet, all acclimatised and from outdoor aviary.—Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

FOR SALE: Pairs: Meyer's Parrots, £12; Bauer's Parrakeets, £10; Mealy Rosella Parrakeets, £8; Red Rosella Parrakeets, £5 10s.; Red-rump Parrakeets, £5 10s.; Swainson's Lorikeets (reared young this year), £12; Peach-faced Lovebirds, £5 10s.; Black-cheeked Lovebirds, £5 10s. All strong healthy birds and true pairs.—T. Hebb, Brooklea, The Downs, Luton, Beds.

FOR SALE: Pairs: Rare Guinea-fowl (*N. cornuta*), 50s.; Diamond Doves (adult), 42s.; Peaceful Doves, 20s.; Bay-winged Cowbirds, 50s.; Chestnut-headed Starlings, 35s.; Red-headed Finches, 25s.; Zebra Finches, 25s.; Californian Quail, 50s.; cock Button Quail, 30s.; Goldfinch × Sikhim Siskin, 30s.; pair Cole Tits, 10s.—W. Shore Baily, Boyers House, Westbury, Wilts.

FOR SALE: Peach-faced Lovebirds, 40s. each; Yellow Budgerigars, 7s. 6d. each; Green Budgerigars, 5s. each; Cockateels, 10s. each. All strong, healthy young birds, bred here this season.—L. Pullar, Dunbarnie Cottage, Bridge-of-Earn, N.B.

FOR SALE.—Young pair Cockateels, 6 months old, in splendid condition, £3 3s.; pair blue-bred Budgerigars, 6 months old (three-parts blue), £3 3s. All out-door aviary bred.—Mackness, 22 Cyprus Road, Finchley, N. 3, London.

OFFERS REQUESTED: In Cash or Birds from outdoor aviaries, for Butler's latest books on Foreign Birds, 2 Vols., illustrated; Butler's *Foreign Finches in Captivity*, 60 exquisitely coloured plates (about 15 birds); *Foreign Cage Birds* by Wiener, 18 coloured plates (about 80 birds); Also about 5 years' BIRD NOTES, all in condition as new, coloured plates included.—Mrs. Travis, Pedmore Grange, Stourbridge.

WANTED: Copies of *Aviaries and Aviary Life*, by W. T. Page.—Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Notice to Members.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL: Two members of the Council—Messrs. R. Suggitt and A. Sutcliffe—retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election. There is also a vacancy caused by the death of Dr. Lovell-Keays. Any nominations or volunteers for these vacancies must reach the Hon. Secretary by December 15th.

SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*

◆

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

These two funds need all the help members can give them; the treasurer will thankfully acknowledge the smallest contribution.

◆

Proposed for Election as Member.

Commander H. Blake Yellibrand, 180, Sandgate Road, Folkestone.
By Wesley T. Page.

◆

Changes and Corrections of Address.

Capt. G. E. Rattigan, to Fluder, Kingskerswell, near Newton Abbott.

Maj. A. E. Snape, to 6, Boscombe Road, Blackpool, S.S.

R. E. Simpson, to Highfield Nursery, Hencouner Lane, Chapel Allerton.

◆

New Member Elected.

S. Murray, 14 Beauford Gardens, Lewisham, London, S.W., 1.

◆

Register of Club Breeders.

Vide May Issue—Green pages 29 and 30.

The Bird Market.

Members' Rates: Four words a penny; minimum fourpence. Non-members and displayed rates on application. Advertisements should be sent to the Hon. Editor by the 8th of each month.

MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

EXCHANGE: Pair of Canary-wing Parrakeets for Cockateels.—Hawkins, Belvedere, Streetly Lane, Sutton Coldfield.

FOR SALE: Wild Ducks, tame-reared, for stocking ponds. What offers.—Hincks, Easterland, Wellington, Somerset.

FOR SALE: Pairs.—Swainson's Lorikeets, Indian Silverbills, Sikhim Siskins, Green Cardinals, Aurita Doves, European Turtle-Doves, Red-vented Bulbuls, and Jungle Mynahs. Odd birds.—Grenadier and Comoro Weavers (cocks), Black-headed Sibia (very fine), Zebra Finch, hen Red-crested Cardinal, 2 young Stanley Parrakeets, hen Bengal Parrakeet. All acclimatised and from outdoor aviary.—W. T. Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

FOR SALE: Breeding pair Budgerigars and youngster, bred from one blue and one green, £5 10s. the three. Small Aviary 35s. Champion bred Italian Greyhounds.—Miss Clare, The Hollies, Coombe Lane, Wimbledon.

FOR SALE: Pectoral Tanager (*Euphonia pectoralis*), cock.—H.G., The Duchess of Wellington, Ewhurst Park, Basingstoke.

WANTED: Copies of *Aviaries and Aviary Life*, by W. T. Page.—Page Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

The Foreign Bird Club.

Notices to Members.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL: No other nominations or notifications of being willing to serve on Council having been received, the two retiring members, Messrs. R. Suggitt and A. Sutcliffe, are duly re-elected.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: These become due on January 1st next, and are payable *in advance*. Any member in arrears will greatly oblige by remitting same not later than 30th inst., so as to enable the year's accounts to be promptly closed.

SIDNEY WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*
WESLEY T. PAGE, *Hon. Editor.*

◆

Deficit and Illustration Funds.

These two funds need all the help members can give them; the hon. treasurer will thankfully acknowledge the smallest contribution.

	£	s.	d.
Edmunds, W. (1921)	0	10	0
Phillips, E. R. (1921)	0	10	0

◆

Proposed for Election as Members.

Miss Violet Macdonald, F.Z.S.,
By S. Williams.
Miss J. Chaloner Ellis, Cranborne Hall, Windsor Forest.
By H. Legh de Legh.

◆

New Member Elected.

Commander H. Blake Yellibrand, 180, Sandgate Road, Folkestone.

◆

Changes and Corrections of Address.

R. E. Simpson, Highfield Nursery, Hencouner Lane, Chapel Allerton, Leeds.
Mrs. H. Ransom to Mountcoombe, Oak Hill Grove, Surbiton, Surrey.

Register of Club Breeders.

Vide May Issue—Green pages 29 and 30.

The Bird Market.

Members' Rates: Halfpenny per word; minimum sixpence. Non-members and displayed rates on application. Advertisements for respective issues should be sent to the Hon. Ed. not later than the 8th of each month.

MEMBERS' SALES, EXCHANGES, AND WANTS

FOR SALE: Red-vented Bulbul, and cock Black-breasted Quail, 21s. each; both acclimatised and in outdoor aviary.—Capt. Reeve, Leadenham House, Lincoln.

FOR SALE: Drawing-room flight-cage, 24ins. long, 16ins. wide, 30ins. high, double doors, mahogany base, in very good condition. Also small show-cage, bow front, good condition. Best cash offers.—Smith, Woodlands, Kendal.

WANTED: Pairs Blue-bred Budgerigars, Yellow Budgerigars, Rosella and Red-rump Parrakeets, or separate birds. Aviary-bred preferred; particulars to.—M. L. Livings, 39 Cambridge Rd, Gunnersbury, W. 4., London.

WANTED: Acclimatised cock Gouldian Finch, Red-headed form preferred.—H. G. the Duchess of Wellington, Ewhurst Park, Basingstoke.

WANTED: Copies of *Aviaries and Aviary Life*, by W. T. Page.—Page, Langstone, Lingfield, Surrey.

FOR SALE: Acclimatised birds: Pairs, Swainson's Lorikeets, Green Cardinals, Aurita Doves, Wild Turtle Doves, Red-vented Bulbuls, Jungle Mynahs. Odd birds, Black-headed Sibia, hen Red-crested Cardinal. Two young Stanley Parrakeets, 60s. each; hen Bengal Parrakeet, 40s.; cock Ring-necked Pheasant, 21s.—W. T. Page, Langstone, Lingfield.

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Black Vasa Parrot £8; House moulted Zosterop or Chinese Spectacle eye, quite tame, 35s.; Yellow-bellied Grosbeaks, £3 each—only been imported once before. Thousands of birds in stock; also Goldfish, American Catfish, Green Tench, Golden Carp, etc.

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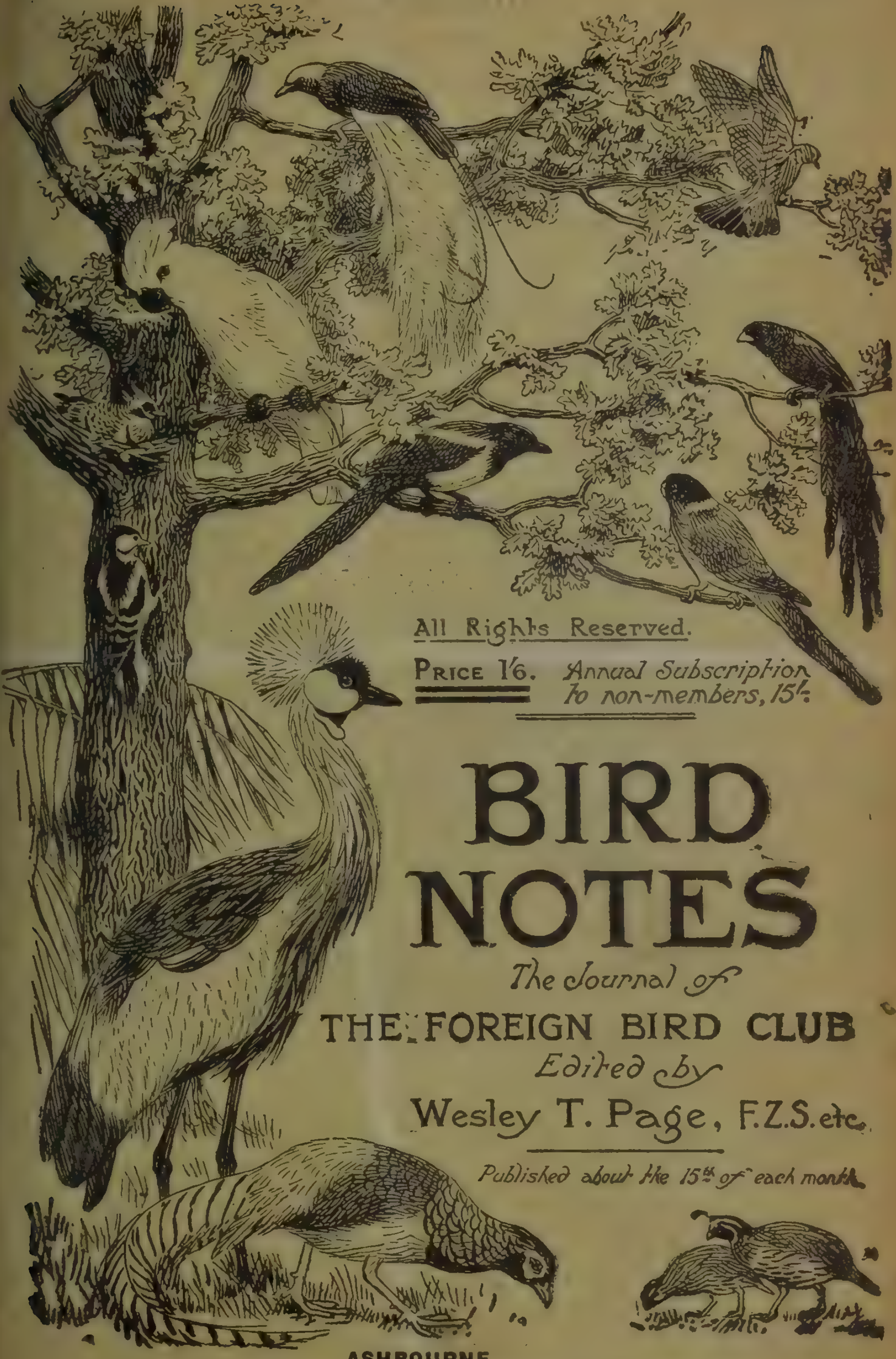

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BIRD NOTES

The Journal of

THE FOREIGN BIRD CLUB

Edited by

Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S. etc.

Published about the 15th of each month.

ASHBOURNE.
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Present Price 2s. 6d. Subscription to Non-Members 25s. per annum, post free.

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The Cirl Bunting .... By Philip Gosse.

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The Bengal Eagle-Owl .... By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., etc.

Records of Birds which have bred in Captivity .... By Dr. E. Hopkinson, D.S.O., M.A., M.B.

Notes on Some Hybrids bred in France ...... By J. Delacour.

The Orange-cheeked Waxbill By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., etc.

Obituary.

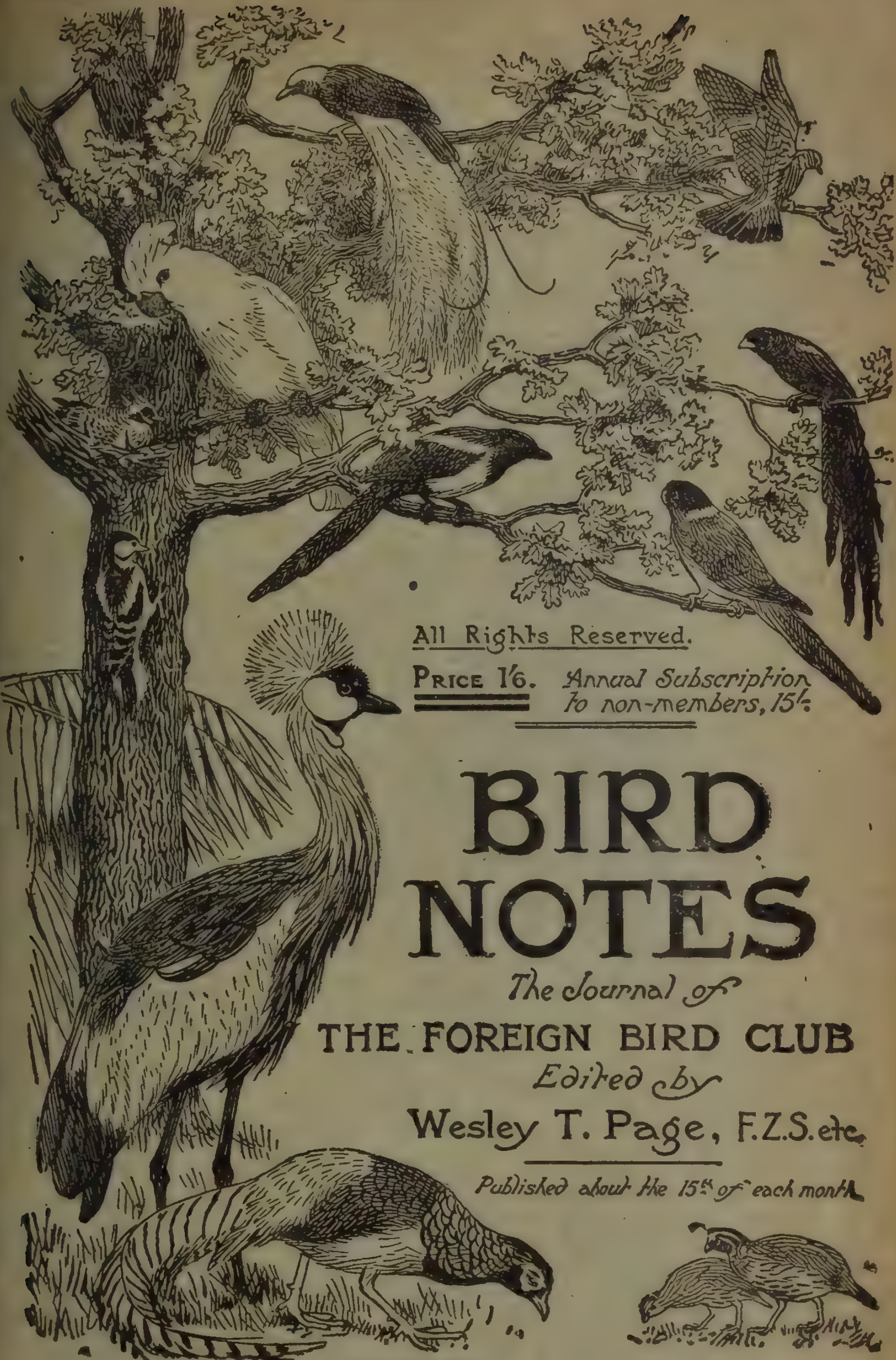
Editorial.

Book Notices and Reviews.

POST MORTEM REPORTS.

Suspended for the present. Will be resumed as soon as a successor can be found to Mr. Gray.

Series III. MARCH, 1920. Vol. III. No. 3



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The Endurance of Birds ...... By Wesley T. Page, F.Z.S., etc.

The Roseate Spoonbill .... By W. Shore Baily.

Lankeland "Eagles" .... Reprinted from *The Times*.

Book Notices and Reviews.

Editorial.

Correspondence—*Loan of Quaker Parrakeet for Breeding;*

Breeding of Egrets in Captivity; The Affinity of Birds and Children.

POST MORTEM EXAMINATIONS.

A Report will appear in next issue of "B.N." and members are requested to only ask for a reply per post in cases of urgency.

RULES.

(1) A short account of the illness should accompany the specimen. All birds to be sent as fresh as possible to

Dr. N. S. Lucas,
The Prosectorium,
The Zoological Society,
Regent's Park, London, N.W., 8.

(2) Should any member require an immediate reply per post, a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed with the bird.

(3) No body or skin of any bird will be returned under any circumstances whatever.

MEMORANDA FOR MEMBERS.

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A new Volume commences every January.

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All MSS. for publication in **Bird Notes**, and Books for Review, Proposals for New Members, Advertisements, for "The Bird Market," and claims for Breeding Medals, should be sent to the Hon. Editor, W. T. Page, F.Z.S., etc., "'Langstone,'' Lingfield, Surrey.

All enquiries as to the treatment of Birds should be sent to the following gentlemen: Parrots and Parrakeets, H. T. Camps, F.Z.S., Linden House, Haddenham, Isle of Ely; Insectivorous, Frugivorous, and Small Seed-eating Birds, W. T. Page, F.Z.S., "Langstone," Lingfield, Surrey.

All Letters referring to the above, identification of birds, etc., must contain a stamped addressed envelope for reply.

All applications for Show Medals and enquiries re Shows should be sent to Mr. S. M. TOWNSEND, 3, Swift Street, Fulham, London, S.W

All other Correspondence, Changes of Address, etc., should be sent to the Hon. Business Secretary, SIDNEY WILLIAMS, F.Z.S., Oakleigh, 110 Riverway, Palmers Green, London, N.13.

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An Illustration Fund is kept open for the purpose of increasing the number of plates, other than the regular income of the Club provides for. The smallest donation will be thankfully received for this object by the Hon. Treasurer.

Any member not receiving **Bird Notes** by the 20th of each month should **at once** write the Publisher, complaining of the omission.

BINDING COVERS.

A New Binding Case in Art Linen, of Handsome Design is now ready. Cases 2s. 9d. post free. The Publisher will bind the Volume complete for 4s. 9d. post free.

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and

HYBRIDS which have Been Bred

in Captivity in Great Britain.

BY

WESLEY T. PAGE, F.Z.S., M.B.N.H.S.,

Systematically arranged according to Dr. Gadow's Classification slightly revised.

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in Captivity in Great Britain.

BY

WESLEY T. PAGE, F.Z.S., M.B.N.H.S.,

Systematically arranged according to Dr. Gadow's Classification slightly revised.

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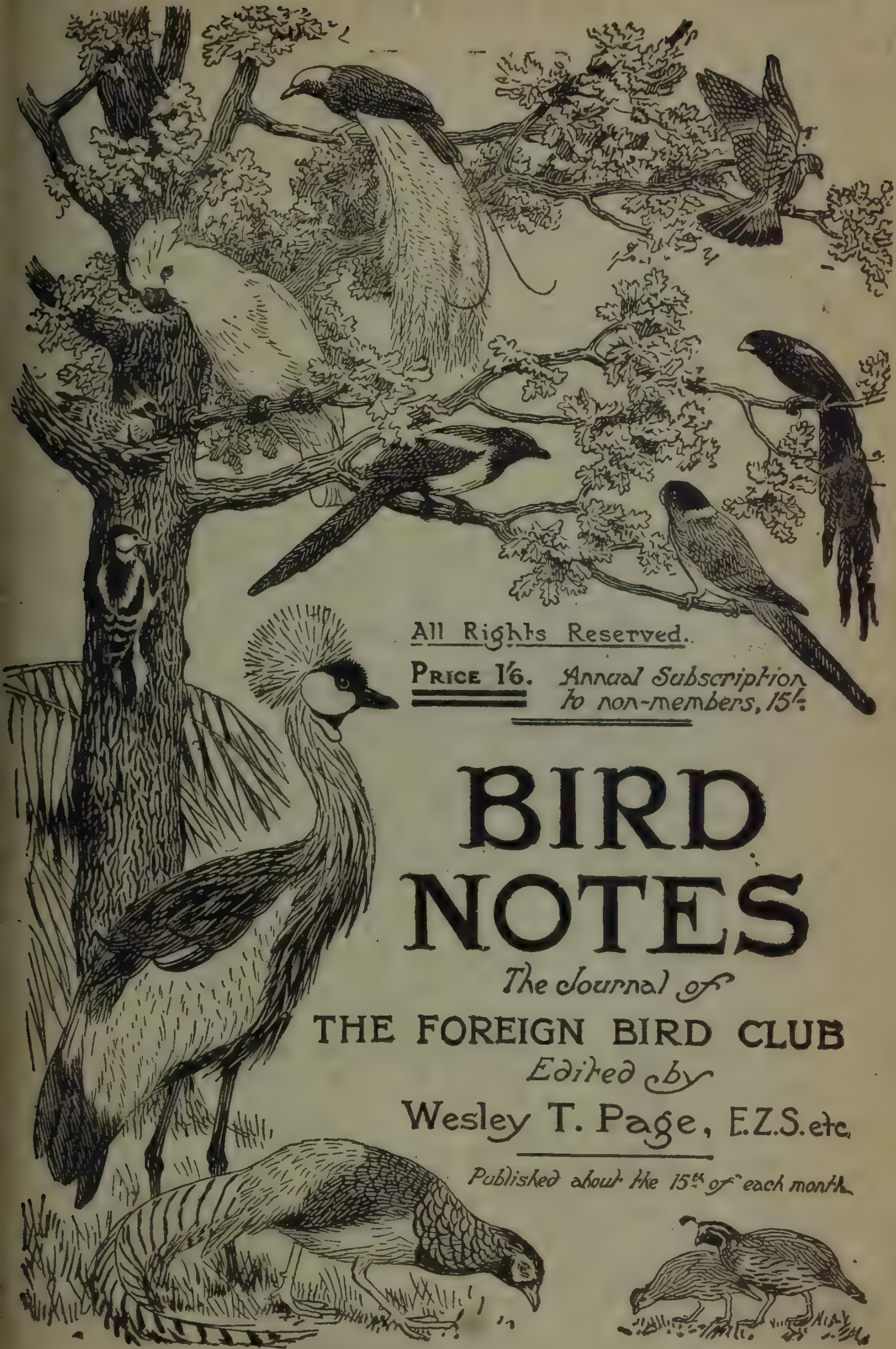

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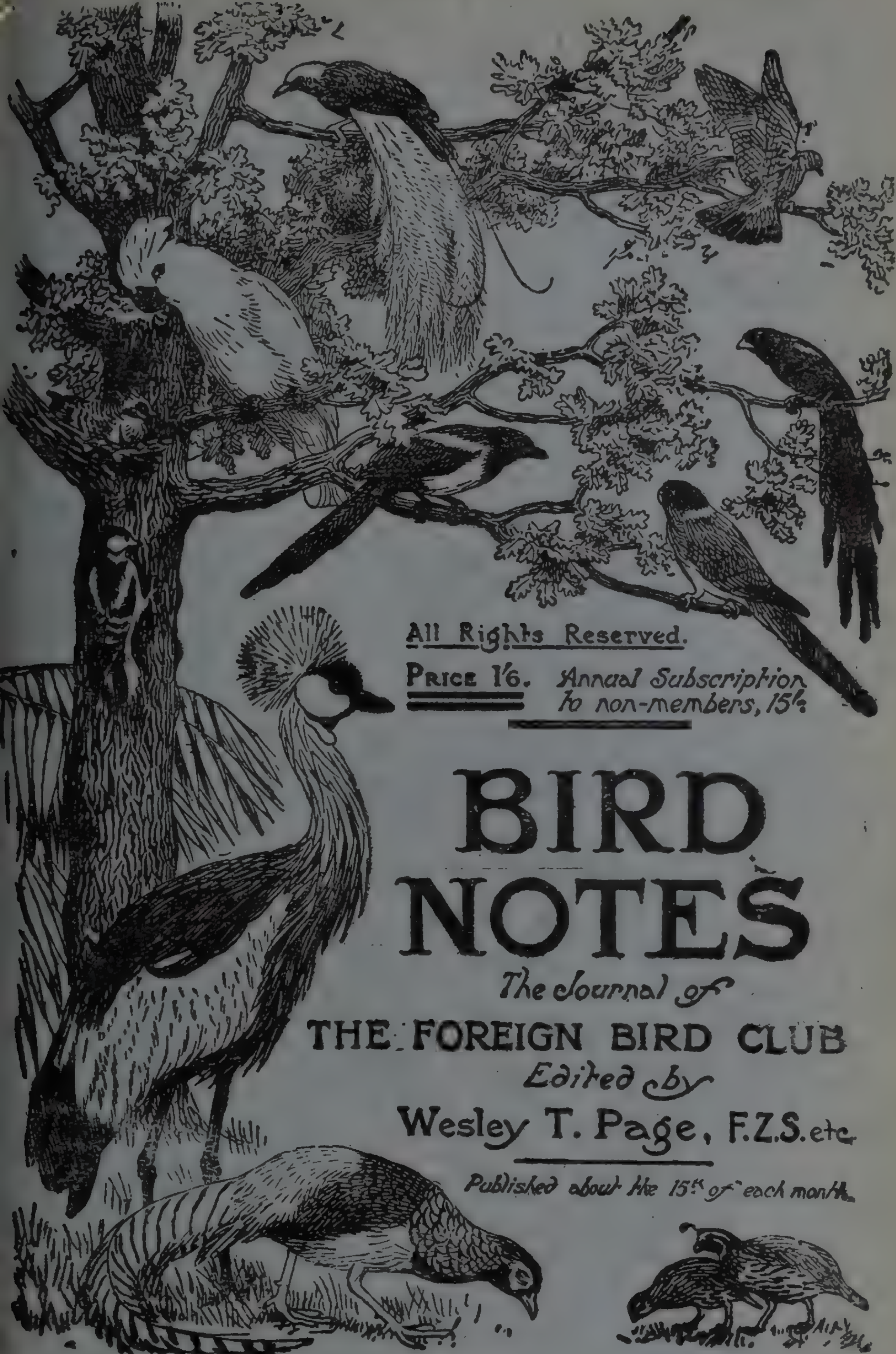

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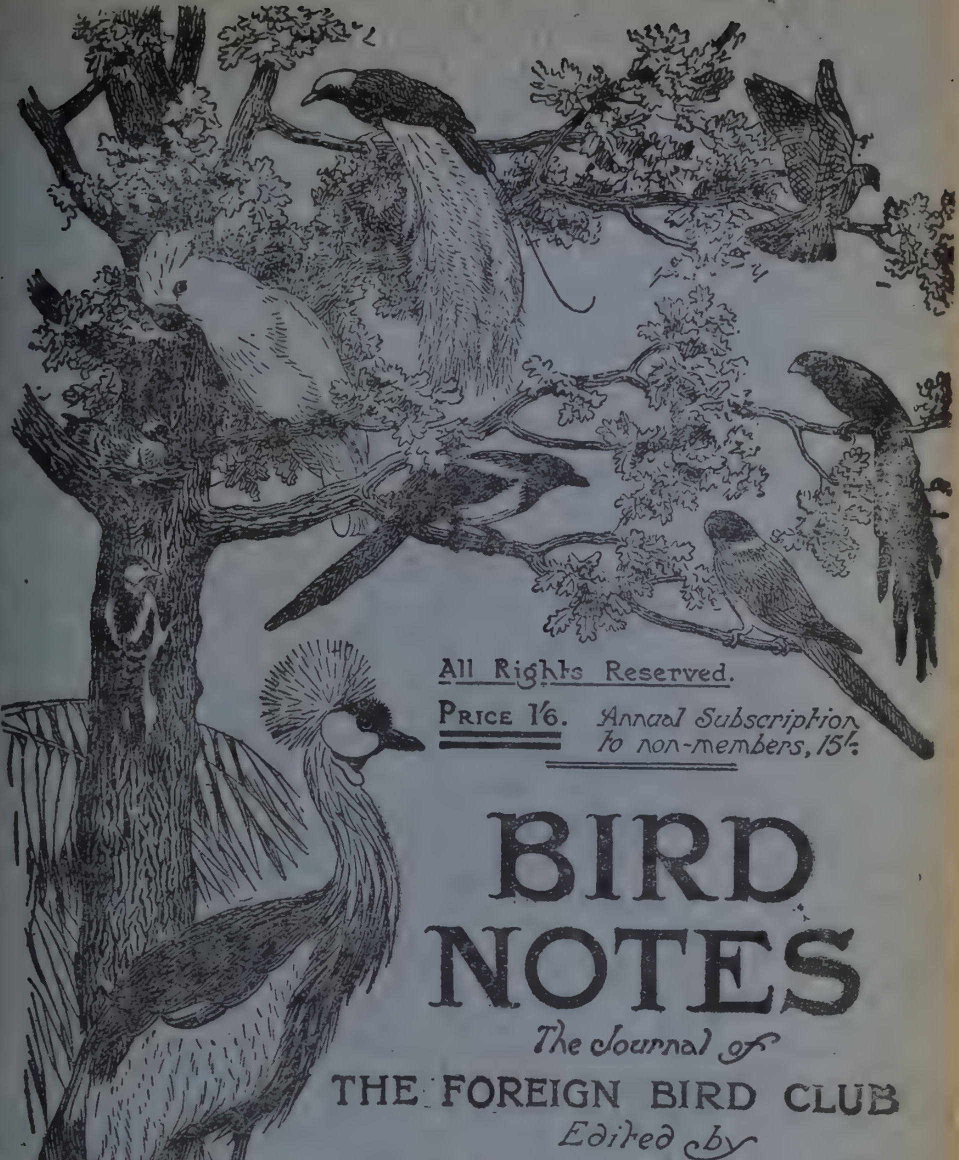

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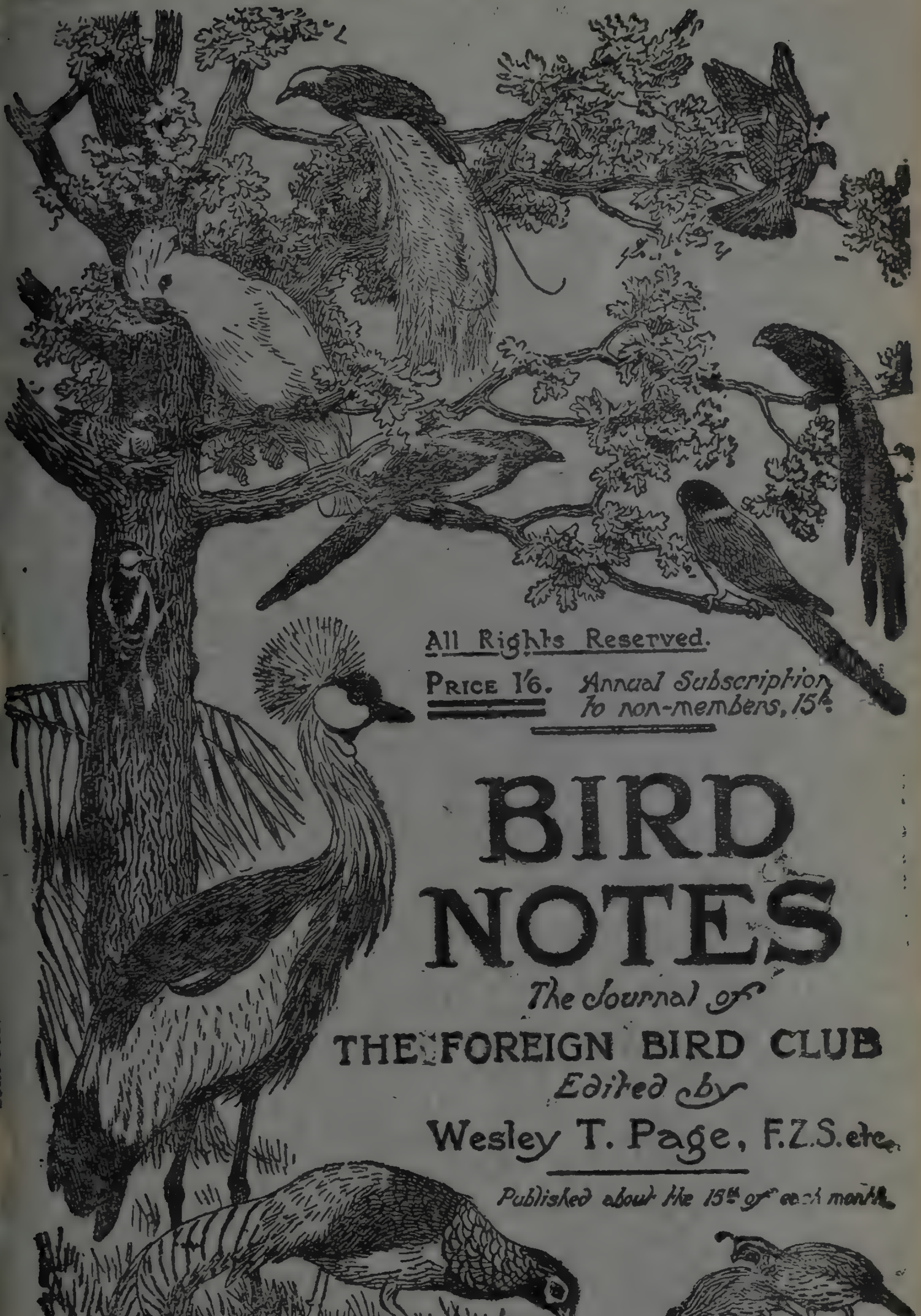

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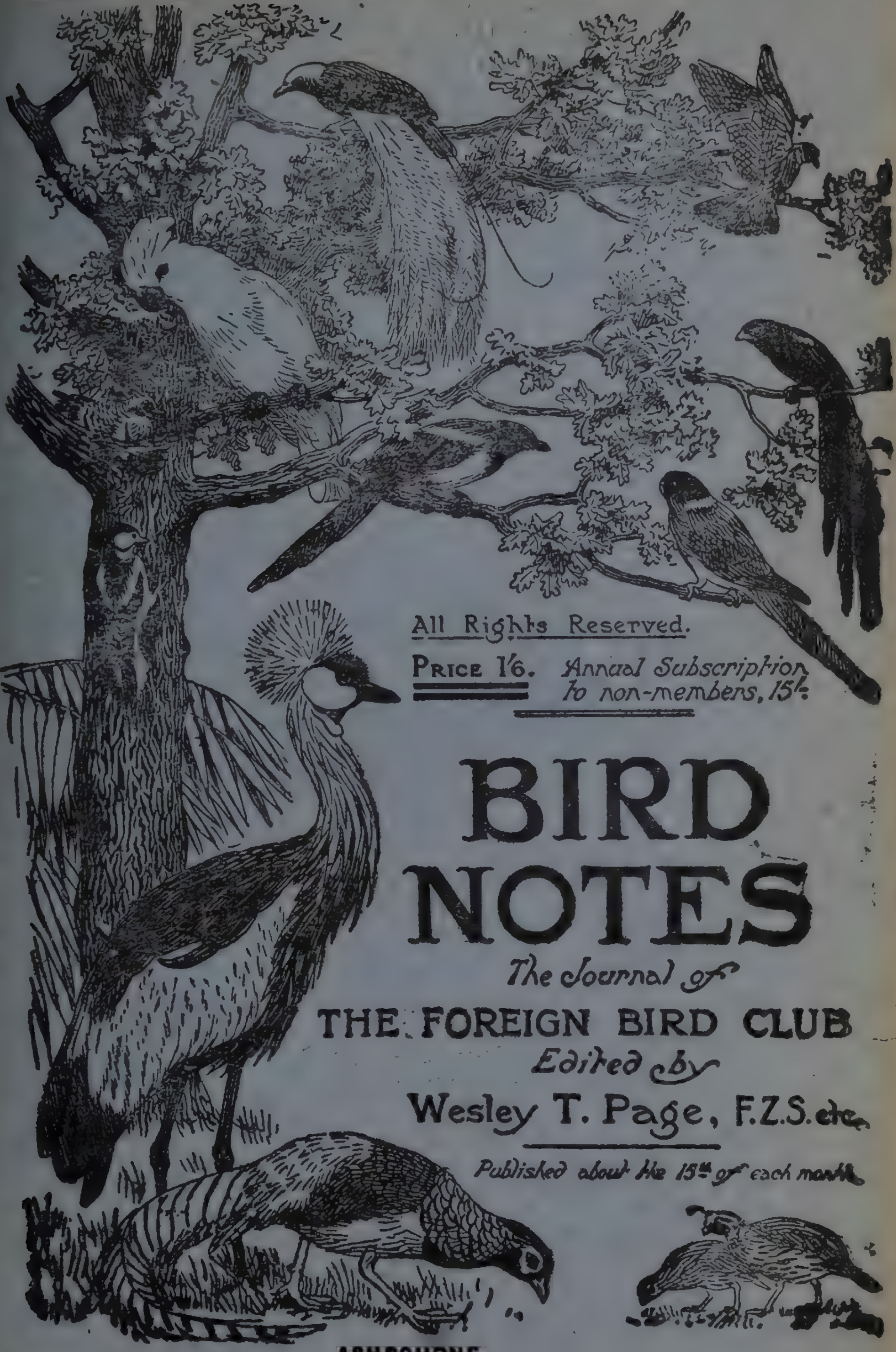

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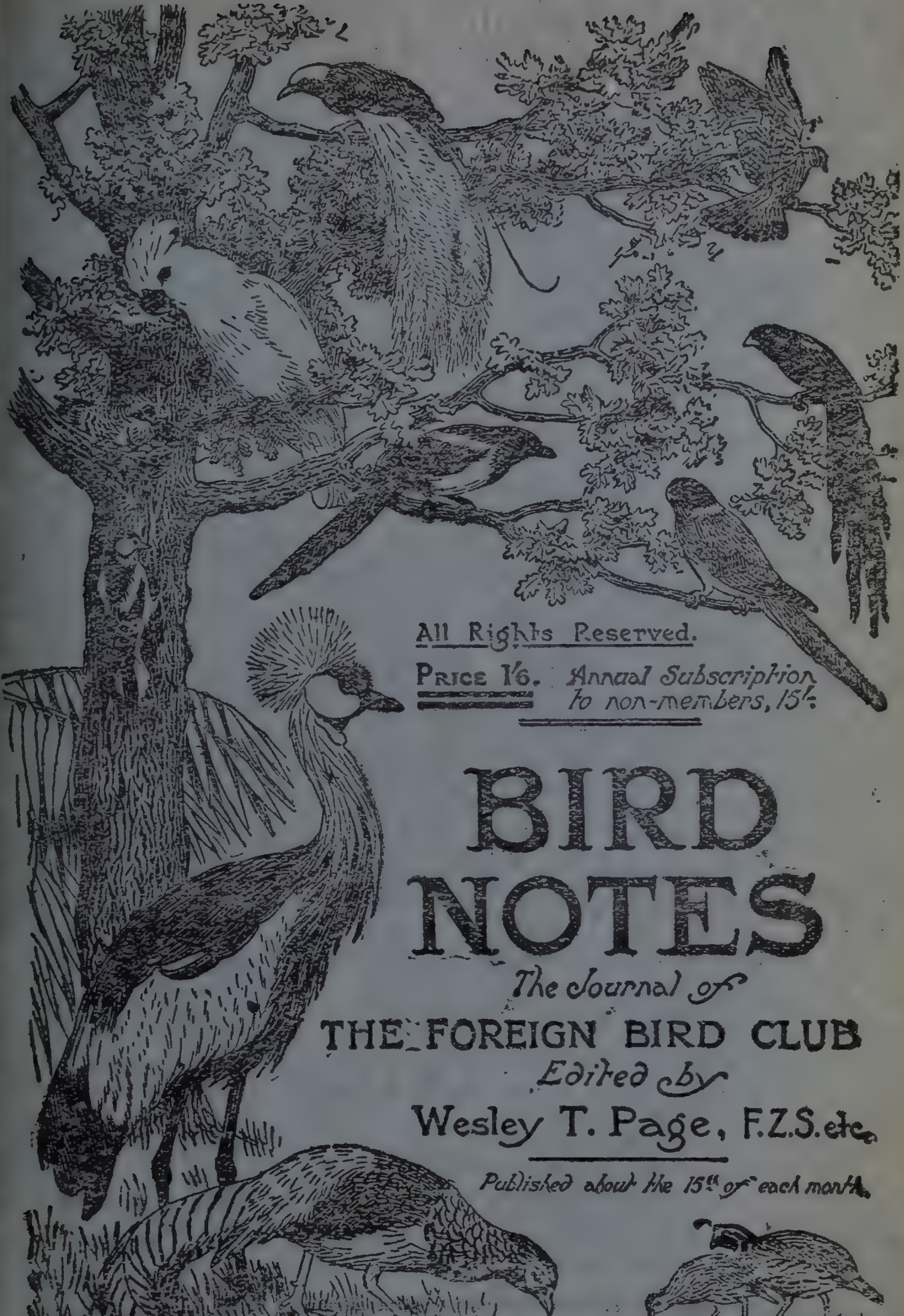

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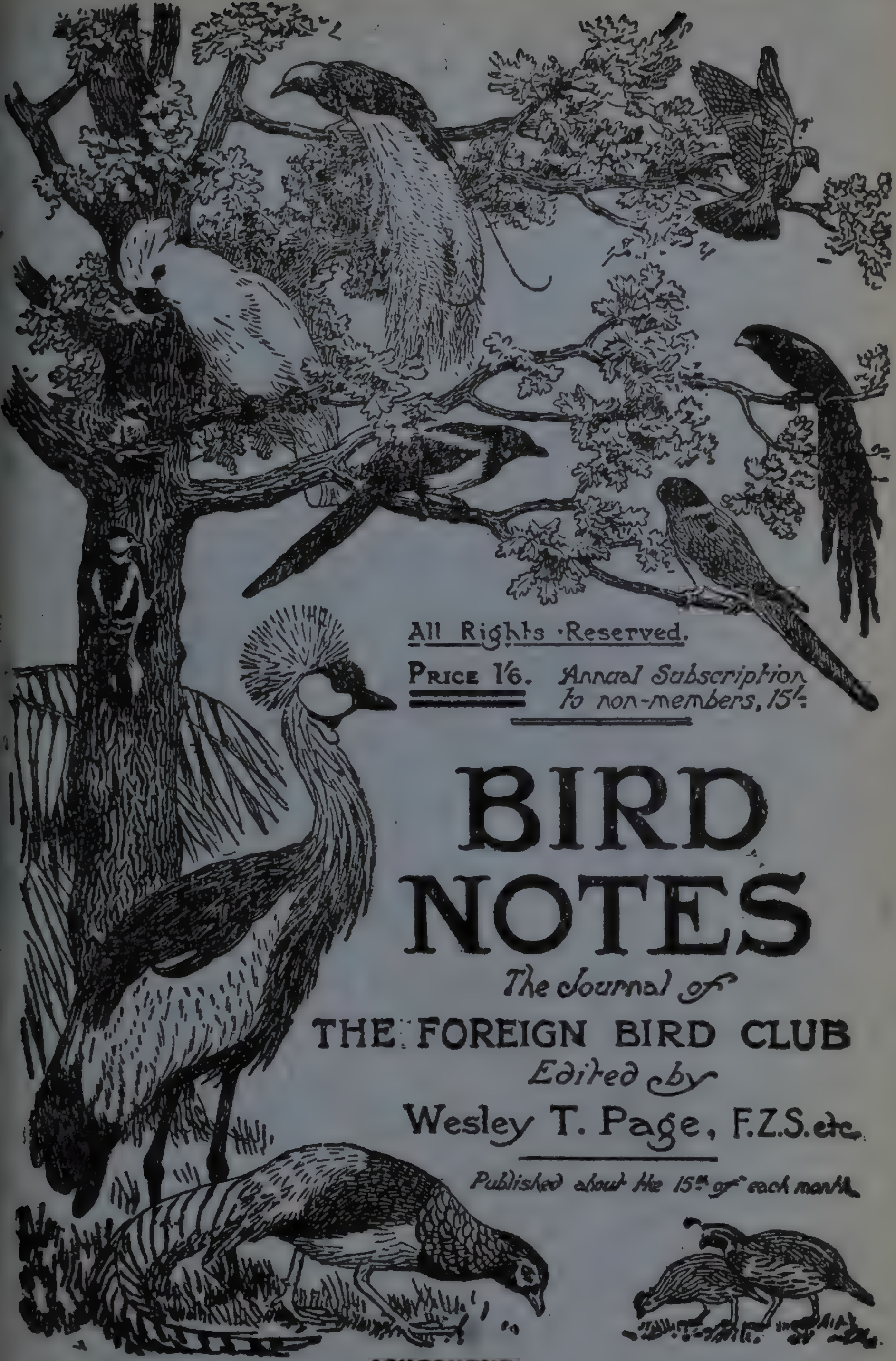

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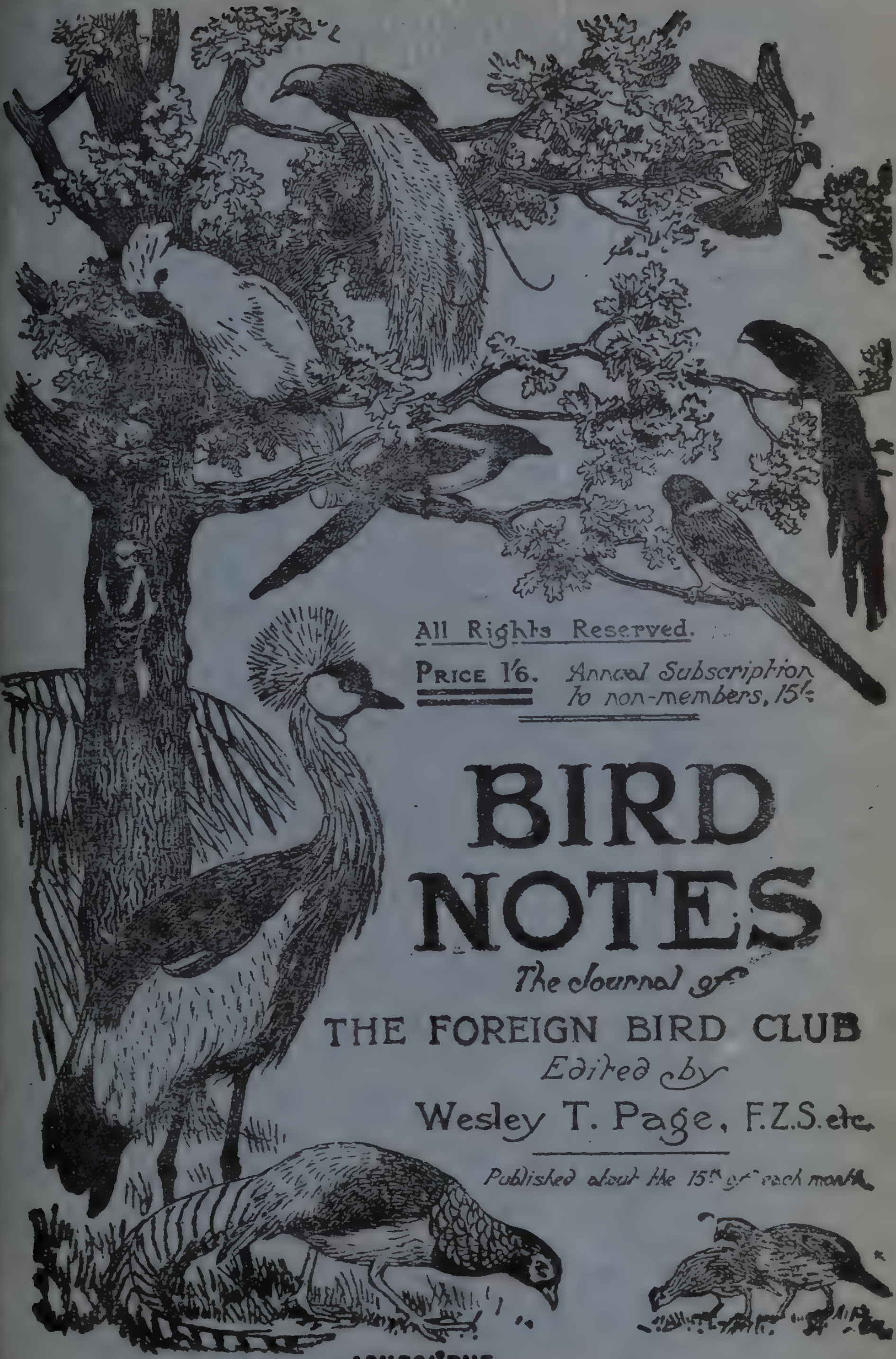

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